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NEWSWATCH

Convict held

A CONVICT, serving a life term in Kuwait, who escaped from the central prison last July and went into hiding in Iraq has been apprehended by Kuwait's security personnel.

The convict has been identified as A.A. According to sources, he returned to Kuwait as he was unable to produce any valid documents to the authorities in Iraq.

Security personnel finding his movements suspicious, approached the convict in downtown Salmiya market. However, the convict held the security personnel at bay at gunpoint and escaped.

But, security personnel were able to arrest him at the Abdali border.

Direct rule

NEW DELHI, May 9, (UPI): The lower house of Parliament today extended for another six months direct rule of Punjab by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's central government, which holds the special condition is necessary to curb Sikh extremism.

Britain warns

LONDON, May 9, (AP): The Foreign Office warned Britons yesterday to get out of Iraq following an Iranian official's call for the killing of Westerners in retaliation for Palestinian deaths at Israeli hands.

Office opens

NICOSIA, May 9, (Reuters): A rebel group led by the President of the Republic of Cyprus has opened an office in Tehran, Iran's IRNA news agency said today.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

○ پاکستان پر جلال آباد اور قندھار پر
ملکی تباہی کا افسوس ○ عرب سربراہ
کافرنس طلب مگر کسی کی کراہی میں
تازگی سے طالب علم ہلاک



Panama protest

Supporters of opposition presidential candidate Guillermo Endara chant in street after being blocked by special anti-riot troops of the Panamanian Defence Forces on Monday. The supporters were trying to reach government election headquarters to protest a delay in the vote count after presidential elections held on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Reject Palestine state before polls

Shamir sets new terms

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 9, (Agencies): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said in an interview published today that Palestinians who take part in his proposed elections must agree in advance that the West Bank and Gaza Strip will not become an independent Palestinian nation.

Shamir told the English-language Jerusalem Post that this agreement will not only cover an interim period of autonomy in the territories but also will apply to later negotiations on the final status of the territories, occupied since 1967.

Membership drive

PARIS, May 9, (Reuters): The PLO, heightening its campaign for international recognition of Palestine as a state, applied to join UNESCO today and said it would ask to join two other UN bodies.

PLO succeeds in joining the organisation.

Omar Massalha, PLO observer at the Paris-based United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, said the PLO planned to apply to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome and the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

See Arabs might compensate Page 2

The request follows the PLO's controversial bid to join the World Health Organisation (WHO), which has sparked United States threats to cut off its substantial contributions if the

Gunmen raid Karachi hospital, kill student

KARACHI, May 9, (Reuters): Masked gunmen raided a Karachi hospital today and killed a student wounded in an attack earlier in the day, Pakistani police said.

The incident was apparently linked to violence between Mohajir immigrants and rival communities which has claimed more than 900 lives since 1986, police sources said.

The dead man belonged to the People's Student Federation (PSF), a student wing of Prime Minister

Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party.

Unidentified men attacked a PSF hostel with guns and home-made bombs, gutting at least three rooms. Two wounded students were rushed to hospital.

Later in the day at least two masked gunmen burst into the hospital and killed one of the students, staff said. The men then fled, spraying bullets at police posted outside.

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Pitman Business Studies Centre (Boys)
Gulf Street, Salmiya — at the crossing of Hamad Al Mubarak Street with Gulf Street
Telephone: 5737811/5737812/5711811
Thursday, 18/5/89 — 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

Permanent residence under study

THE Higher Planning Council is currently studying the possibility of granting certain sections of Arabs with permanent residence in Kuwait, according to Rashed Al Rashed, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs. A decision is expected soon, he said.

The demographic policies committee will submit their recommendations to the Council of Ministers for approval, Rashed said and added that this is a vital and sensitive issue as it relates to the country's policy of achieving a

demographic balance and selecting the best qualified personnel among Arabs.

The official disclosed that the permanent residence and Kuwait's economic policy are the main issues being currently studied by the various Higher Planning Council committees.

Meanwhile, Dr Abdul Hadi Al Awadi, undersecretary at the Ministry of Planning and general co-ordinator of the state's five-year development plan said that amending the

demographic structure in Kuwait and achieving a balance between Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis, is one of Kuwait's major problems.

He said: "This is an objective issue and we have to admit that the percentage of Kuwaitis is very low."

This has made the contributions of the Kuwaiti workforce in both the government and the private sector very low, Awadi said. Consequently, this necessitates that the demographic structure be balanced.

Explain H-bomb incident: Japan

TOKYO, May 9, (Agencies): Japan has asked the United States to explain more fully a Pentagon report that a US hydrogen bomb was accidentally dumped at sea close to southern Japan, a Foreign Ministry official said today.

The official said Tokyo asked the US government to provide more facts about the incident, which took place in 1965.

Japan — the only country to experience a nuclear attack — had known a bomb was lost through a 1981 Pentagon report, but it was not aware of the details, he added.

Sabah regrets truce collapse

Arab League delegation off to Beirut

KUWAIT, May 9, (Agencies): Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today ruled out sending an Arab League observer force to Lebanon as long as the fighting there continued, and expressed regret at what he described as a statement by a pro-Syrian militia leader threatening to kill the Arab observers.

He also regretted the collapse of a short-lived ceasefire ordered by the League.

Sheikh Sabah, who chairs the Arab League's six-man panel on Lebanon, told reporters he was calling the panel to a meeting to evaluate the latest situation in Lebanon.

"It has become difficult in the light of the recent developments to contemplate sending Arab observers to Lebanon and exposing their lives to danger, either through assassination or death from indiscriminate

shelling, especially since the observer force is meant not as a deterrent but as a monitor for the ceasefire."



He deplored a statement he claimed was made by the Lebanese Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, leader of the Socialist Progressive Party, who he quoted as saying recently that Arab observers would be returned to their countries, "in their coffins."

"We regret such statements... We are also astonished at Arab silence and the failure of any Arab official to reply to (Jumblatt)," he said.

German killed

Four gunmen in a car shot dead a West German businessman on a main street in the Philippine capital, Manila, on Monday night, police said.

Witnesses saw the men pull up alongside the car of Hans-Juergen Tittel, 47, and shoot him and his Filipino driver with M-16 automatic rifles.

A police detective inspects (above) the body of Tittel. (Reuters wire-photo)

See Rebels clash Page 2

Talks on Arab summit

BAGHDAD, May 9, (AP): Presidents Hoshi Mubarak of Egypt and Saddam Hussein of Iraq today discussed the staging of the first full Arab summit in a decade and called for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from strife-torn Lebanon, said an official announcement.

The extraordinary summit scheduled for May 23-24 in Casablanca, Morocco, called to discuss the Lebanese civil war and the Arab-Israeli conflict, is likely to be the first to be attended

by Egypt since 1979.

Mubarak spent four hours in Baghdad where he arrived early in the afternoon direct from talks with King Hussein of Jordan both on Egypt's participation in the summit and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The statement demanded the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon, adding that the presence of Israeli, Syrian and Iranian forces violated the country's sovereignty and national integrity.

In the earlier report the United States said the bomb was lost 500 miles from land, apparently referring to its distance from the mainland of Asia.

But the Pentagon said yesterday the hydrogen bomb, loaded on a plane based on the US Navy aircraft carrier Ticonderoga, fell into the Pacific Ocean about 80 miles from the Ryukyu islands, which are now Japanese territory.

A pilot died and an A-4E Skyhawk strike aircraft was lost in the incident. At the time the United States controlled the Ryukus, which include Okinawa. The islands reverted to Japan in 1972.

Documents gathered under US Freedom of Information laws for the Private Institute of Policy Studies in Washington showed the loss of the bomb was covered up by the US Navy, Newsweek magazine said on Sunday.

Some people in Japan reacted angrily to the revelations.

People on Okinawa, the main island in the Ryukyu chain, said they were afraid of the bomb, which lies under 4,900 metres (16,000 feet) of water.

US naval vessels are transporting nuclear weapons across Japanese territorial waters even though Japan forbids "introduction" of such loads, a researcher says.

"There is no doubt in my mind that US ships still transit Japan with nuclear weapons aboard," researcher William Arkin of the Liberal Institute for Policy Studies said yesterday.

The researcher Arkin did with the environmentalist Greenpeace group concluded that the United States and Soviet Union have littered the ocean floor with at least 48 nuclear weapons and 11 nuclear reactors.

His statements seemed to lessen chances for Palestinians accepting the election plan, since both leading figures in the occupied lands and the PLO have insisted any balloting must be part of an overall plan leading to Palestinian independence.

The United States has urged Israel not to crack down on suspected leaders of a Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Israeli officials said today.

Security forces clashed with Palestinian youths throwing stones and blocking a street in the West Bank village of Salfit, an Army spokesman said. Three protesters, one of whom later died, were shot, he said.

Meanwhile soldiers kept some 900,000 Palestinians under curfew today in the occupied territories.

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LAST SALE starts Tomorrow at The Grand Stores

Ship fire kills 6

Six sailors were killed and five were injured yesterday in a fire that swept through the boiler room of the combat stores ship USS White Plains (picture) about 100 miles (160 kms) from Hong Kong in the South China Sea, the Navy said.

The ship's three boilers were destroyed, leaving the 18,000-ton vessel dead in the water. The tug USS Sioux, en route to the scene, was to tow the White Plains back to Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines.

7 injured in Nagorno-Karabakh clashes

MOSCOW, May 9, (Reuters): Seven people were injured in clashes involving up to 200 Armenians and Azerbaijanis as ethnic violence flared again in the Soviet Transcaucasian region of Nagorno-Karabakh, Tass said today.

Soviet Interior Ministry troops fired warning shots to restore order to the settlement of Kirkidzhan, on the outskirts of the capital of Stepanakert, where the clashes took place on Friday, the Soviet news agency said.

Three civilians and four soldiers were wounded in the first reported outbreak of violence in the region since it was placed under the control of a special Kremlin commission in January. Four cars and a motorcycle were damaged, Tass said.

Authorities responded by lengthening the overnight curfew, which had not been lifted since it was imposed last September to stop clashes between the two communities. Troops had also been stationed between Armenian and Azerbaijani regions.

US may strengthen Army in canal zone

Rivals claim victory in Panama

WASHINGTON, May 9, (Agencies): President George Bush and key advisers yesterday were considering strengthening canal zone troops to protect US citizens, administration officials said, after the State Department called Panama's elections a fraud.

"They discussed a wide range of possible options but no decisions were made," one administration official said.

In interviews, administration officials virtually ruled out one important option — direct military intervention.

"I would never expect anything like that," one administration official said.

Bush was considering adding to the 10,000 canal zone troops, who could be used if Americans there faced problems or if the canal was threatened, an administration official said.



Opposition presidential candidate Guillermo Endara waves to supporters during an opposition rally in Panama City. (Reuters wirephoto)

In the Panamanian presidential polls, both the candidates Guillermo Endara of the anti-Noriega Civil Democratic Opposition alliance and pro-Noriega candidate Carlos Duque of the National Liberation coalition have claimed victory.

Earlier, the State Department issued a statement that backers of Panamanian military leader Manuel Antonio Noriega rigged Sunday's election of the pro-Noriega candidate.

The evidence cited by the department was based partly on comments by the head of the presidential observer delegation in Panama, Congressman John Murtha, who claimed the electoral process was marked by "fraud and manipulation."

The department statement also said the vote tabulation was interrupted after the election on Sunday and European parliamentarians reported that 127,000 ballots were destroyed.

"We are deeply concerned by evidence pouring in of electoral fraud on the part of the pro-Noriega forces," the statement said.

It added that opposition demonstrators were met yesterday by a show of force, including water cannons, riot police and armed civilian supporters of the government.

At the State Department, deputy spokesman Richard Boucher refused to say what action the United States would take if US officials conclude that Noriega, rigged the results in favour of his hand-picked candidate, Carlos Duque.

Two US senators arrived from Panama yesterday and said the United States must consider using force to remove Noriega if his de facto military government succeeds in stealing the presidential election.

Sri Lankan ministers to join Talks to be upgraded

COLOMBO, May 9, (Agencies): Tamil rebels holding peace talks have named five government ministers who they want included in discussions aimed at ending ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, officials said yesterday.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the rebels named Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne and four other members of President Ranasinghe Premadasa's cabinet.

The others named are Public Administration and Local Government Minister U.B. Wijekoon, Power Minister Festus Ferrera, Education Minister Shahul Hamid and Information Minister Wijemu Lokubandara.

There was no immediate response from the government, the officials said.

The rebels and seven officials nominated by Premadasa have been holding discussions in the capital of Colombo since last Thursday. It is the first time since they began their insurgency in 1983 that the rebels have held peace negotiations with the government.

Officials and newspapers have said that the discussions will be upgraded to ministerial level by tomorrow.

The Sri Lankan Navy is to purchase sophisticated naval vessels from China, defence officials said today.

Kadar sacked, Grosz under pressure

BUDAPEST, May 9, (Reuters): Hungary's ruling communists have sacked former leader Janos Kadar from his last party posts and called a special conference that could threaten his successor, Karoly Grosz, and cause a further reformist landslide.

News of his resignation to political oblivion came in a two-sentence report after a long closed session yesterday of the party's 118-member central committee.

"On the basis of information received about Janos Kadar's state of health, the central committee

decided to relieve him of his post of party president and central committee member," the state news agency MTI said.

Kadar, installed after Soviet tanks put down the 1956 uprising, led Hungary till less than a year ago when he was replaced as general secretary and shunted into the powerless post of party president.

He was removed from the supreme politburo but kept a place on the policymaking central committee.

See Political oblivion Page 8



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Labour urged to change N-policy

LONDON, May 9, (AP): Opposition leader Neil Kinnock appealed yesterday for a change to his Labour Party's vote-winning policy of unilateral nuclear disarmament and for more openness to market forces over the "naive, shopping-list socialism" of party left-wingers.

At the start of two days of talks by Labour's national executive committee, Kinnock accused left-wingers of trying to inoculate the party from the capitalist, market economy system.

"It's the system we live in, and we have got to make it work more efficiently, more fairly and more successfully in the world market

place," Kinnock told a news conference.

"That's what the policy review report is about, and we shall reject any sort of naive, shopping-list socialism," he said.

Labour, which has lost three elections in a row since 1979 and has lurched further left in opposition, is midway through a two-year review of its policies.

Kinnock wants to ready Labour for the next general election, probably in 1991.

He and other party leaders want to water down the unequivocal policy of unilateral nuclear disarmament, which has undermined the party's chances of regaining support.

It commits a labour government to scrap Britain's nuclear weapons unilaterally and shut down US nuclear bases in this country within five years.

On Monday, the committee voted by 23-4 in favour of a Kinnock-backed policy to jettison state-owned industries sold by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The policy favours renationalizing only the telephone and telecommunications giant British Telecom, and the English and Welsh water supply system, which is due to be sold within a year.

The committee also voted in

favour of raising income tax for high-earners to 50 per cent from the current 40 per cent limit. A Labour government also would oppose cuts in defence spending and build no more new nuclear power stations, the committee agreed.

On the economy, Kinnock has already succeeded in edging his party to the right and denied that a Labour government would be profligate.

Labour, he said, would not "promise to spend that which we have not got. We will make stark decisions about priorities."

(See Delay in talks Page 4)

Pakistani extradited to US for drug trial

MIAMI, May 9, (AP): The first Pakistani citizen extradited by his homeland to the United States was ordered held yesterday without bond here on hashish-smuggling charges.

Malik Mohamed Saleem, 58, arrived in Miami on Sunday after a trip from Pakistan's capital of Islamabad. Drug Enforcement Administration spokesman John Fernandes said.

"Pakistani officials told us that in the 15-year history of the extradition treaty between our two countries, this was the first time a Pakistani had been extradited to the United States," Fernandes said.

The government and its officials co-operated 100 per cent with us throughout the entire affair," Saleem was one of 22 persons indicted in July 1988 in what US attorney Dexter Lehtinen described as "an international enterprise spanning the globe" since 1970.

The ring operated in England, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Singapore, Australia, West Germany, the Philippines, Thailand, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Canada and the United States, the indictment said.

The government said the smugglers were led by British citizen Dennis Howard Marks, who was arrested in Spain, and currently is in a Madrid jail, fighting extradition.

Saleem, whose alias, according to the DEA, is "The Chef," was arrested at the time of the indictment at his sumptuous home in Karachi by agents of the Pakistani Narcotics Control Board.

"He fought extradition through the lower and Supreme Courts of Pakistan, not once, but twice," said Fernandes.

The first time, the extradition order was reversed by the Supreme Court on a technicality, but on Saturday it was upheld and Saleem was ordered to the United States.

Fernandes said that as soon as the order was received, 40 armed Pakistani agents took Saleem to the capital airport, where other guards and two DEA agents were waiting.

He was hustled aboard a New York-bound Pakistan International Airlines Boeing 747, the upper deck of which had been cordoned off and reserved for the group.

"However, en route, the 747 had oil trouble, and it had to land in Istanbul, Turkey," Fernandes related.

Deaths from illegal drug use in Switzerland rose to a record high of 205 last year amid signs of a big increase in cocaine supplies, authorities said today.

Rudolf Wyss, chief of the federal narcotics police, said the death rate per capita in Switzerland was far higher than in neighbouring European states.

In West Germany, which has ten times the population of Switzerland, there were 674 deaths due to drugs last year, he said.

Killings condoned

NOUMEA, May 9, (UPI): A hardline independence party broke silence today and condoned the assassination of two autonomist leaders in the French-administered archipelago of New Caledonia, calling the killings a "severe warning" to authorities in France.

"We accuse the French government," the United Kanak Liberation Front said in a statement issued by Pierre Xulue, one of the leaders.

"These deaths must be taken as a severe warning by French colonialism that one must never betray a popular struggle," Xulue said his organisation "does not condemn" the shooting of Jean-Marie Tjibaou and Yverne Yverne on Thursday.

The ambush of the two at the outlying island of Ouvéa "is part of the liberation struggle of the Kanak people against the French people," Xulue said.



Chinese opera

A traditional Chinese opera is performed on Tsing Yi island to celebrate the birthday of Tin Hau, the goddess of the sea. In this scene, the actress is receiving advice from her actor father in the various ways of seducing boys. She blushes. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rebels clash with soldiers, 27 killed

Filipino insurgency

MANILA, May 9, (AP): At least 27 communist guerrillas, a policeman and a civilian were killed and 18 government troops wounded in separate clashes over a 24-hour period, the military reported today.

In the bloodiest incident, soldiers killed at least nine rebels at a communist New People's Army encampment at dusk yesterday in the mountain town of Vintar in Ilocos Norte province, about 400 kilometres (250 miles) north of Manila, the Philippine Army headquarters in Manila said.

Two rebels were captured and eight government soldiers were wounded, the report said.

Members of the first Scout Ranger Regiment had been monitoring the activity of rebels in Vintar for several weeks and decided to launch an attack after identifying the guerrillas' positions, according to the report.

The two sides fought in sporadic clashes that continued today, the Army said.

In Bulacan province, just north of Manila, at least three rebels and a government civilian guide were killed yesterday during a 45-minute clash between insurgents and policemen near the town of Obando, said Lieut Joel Flores, the town's police station commander.



Back in business

A jubilant top US space official declared the United States "back in the space exploration business" after yesterday's return of the space shuttle Atlantis.

Picture shows the space shuttle Atlantis land at Edwards Air Force Base on a desert runway. (Reuters wirephoto)

Scientists reveal new evidence to support cold fusion

LOS ANGELES, May 9, (Reuters): Two scientists who claim to have fused atoms at room temperature have revealed new evidence to support their theory in the face of mounting scepticism.

But at the same time, chemists Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann admitted they may have made mistakes in reaching the results that have sent the scientific world into a frenzy.

"I accept our technique may be at fault but I don't accept it's at fault for the reasons that

have been put forward," said Fleischmann, a professor at Britain's Southampton University.

Fleischmann and Pons, a University of Utah professor, were in Los Angeles yesterday to address a special session at the conference of the electrochemical society.

The two chemists announced in March they had achieved nuclear fusion in a jar at room temperature — a discovery that raised the prospect of a boundless, clean and cheap

energy source based on sea water.

They said fusion, the process that creates energy equal to that of the sun, occurred when an electric current was applied to a palladium metal rod inserted in a flask containing deuterium, or heavy water, which is abundant in sea water.

In support of their theory, Fleischmann and Pons said yesterday they had new evidence of bursts of excess heat from their experiments.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jettliner swerves

LOS ANGELES, May 9, (UPI): An Air New Zealand 747 heading for Los Angeles international airport with 386 people aboard was forced to swerve sharply to avoid a light plane less than 500 feet (150m) away, officials said yesterday.

Two people aboard the jettliner suffered minor injuries in the incident, which occurred about 5:30 pm on Sunday about 20 miles (30 km) east of Santa Catalina Island, said National Transportation Safety Board regional director Gary Muncho, who is heading the investigation.

The large plane landed without further incident 10 minutes later. Investigators have not found the small plane, a twin-engine Cessna, or its pilot.

Aid for arms denied

KUALA LUMPUR, May 9, (AP): A senior government official denied today a report in a London magazine that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had personally pledged economic aid to Malaysia to secure a 4-billion-ringgit (\$1.48 billion) arms order last year.

Awar Ibrahim, education minister and a vice-president of the United Malays National Organisation, the nation's dominant political party, told reporters the report in the London Observer was "baseless." He said that as far as he knew, no defence contract could be tied to an aid programme.

Siachen firing

NEW DELHI, May 9, (KUNA): Pakistani troops have been resorting to intermittent firing on Indian posts in the strategic Siachen Glacier in Jammu and Kashmir state.

The Pakistani troops have set up two new posts in Chumik Glacier, west of Salsu Ridge. Lt General BC Nanda, who is in charge of the area, told newsmen that there had been heavy exchange of fire between Pakistani Army and Indian soldiers recently, resulting in casualties on the Pakistani side.

Corpses exhumed

VIENNA, May 9, (Reuters): Austrian investigators today exhumed the body of the first of at least 48 patients alleged to have been killed by four assistant nurses at a Vienna hospital.

The body was that of a 74-year-old man alleged to have been killed with a sleeping drug, a Vienna court spokesman said. Results of an autopsy are not expected for several weeks.

Guilt of murder

JOHANNESBURG, May 9, (UPI): A Supreme Court found two white youths guilty of murder yesterday in the stoning death of an eight-year-old black boy during a drunken day playing hockey.

The two former high school students, from suburban Florida, were among a group of youths who stoned a school for a day in a resort in October 1987, later decided to attack pedestrians and loaded their jeep with stones.

Earthquakes

BEIJING, May 9, (AP): Earthquakes that shook Yunnan province in southwest China over the weekend left at least one person dead, injured as many as 91 and destroyed about 5,000 homes, official media reported today.

The earthquakes, the strongest measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale on Sunday in the mountainous areas of Gengma County, also damaged 17 reservoirs, five power stations and 174 kms (108 miles) of roads, the state-run Xinhua news agency said. About 233 hectares (576 acres) of farmland were "severely affected," it said.

Car bombing

ALCALA DE HENARES, Spain, May 9, (AP): A car bomb explosion believed triggered by Basque separatists killed two policemen and injured three after a shooting incident apparently aimed at luring police, authorities said today.

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Drug cult members questioned

5 face trial in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, May 9. (Agencies): Five suspected members of a drug-smuggling cult accused of killing 15 people near the US border, including an American student, will be prosecuted in Mexico, authorities said yesterday.

The decision, which followed a statement by US officials that they do not intend to extradite the suspects, means that if convicted the five will not face the death penalty and may not be jailed for more than 40 years.

Jorge Sanchez, a spokesman for the Mexico City attorney general's office, told United Press International that the five defendants, including the cult's so-called "witch", would be tried by a Mexican court.

He could not say when the trial would begin.

"Investigations are still on, and we don't have any idea how long they will continue," Sanchez said. "They will face prison sentences."

The five, all Mexicans, arrested Saturday and Sunday after a shootout in Mexico City's wealthy Cuauhtemoc sector, face charges including homicide, property damage, resisting arrest and criminal association, police said.

Bodies identified as those of cult leader Adolfo de Jesus Constanzo, 26, a Cuban-born American from Miami described as the "godfather" of the group, and of his assistant, Martin Quintana Rodriguez, were found in the apartment.

US authorities had sought Constanzo and Sara Aldrete Villarreal, 24, on federal charges of interstate flight to avoid prosecution and Texas charges of narcotic trafficking and aggravated kidnapping in the abduction in the United States of one cult victim.

The authorities said they no longer plan to seek the extradition of Aldrete or any other cultists. They have expressed satisfaction with the capture and say they are leaving the prosecution to Mexican authorities.

Benjamin Euresi, district attorney for Cameron county, Texas, said yesterday that the county also has no plans to initiate extradition proceedings against any of the cultists.

"We have no plans to do so," he said. "In addition, if they are Mexican citizens, and I believe they are, there is no way Mexico would extradite them. We have not spoken with Mexican authorities, but I can only assume that would be the case this time."

Constanzo and Aldrete had been sought by police in Mexico and the United States since April 11, when the first of 13 bodies



Survivor
Petaluma Valley Hospital released this photo of Carmina Salcido, the surviving daughter of suspected killer Ramon Salcido, showing her decorating a tree with adhesive stickers. (Reuter wirephoto)

were found at the cult's Rancho Santa Elena House near the Mexican border city of Matamoros.

The bodies of two more victims, who were not killed ritually, were found at a nearby ranch. Authorities believed those men were killed because they had betrayed the drug smugglers.

Police first arrested Aldrete, DeLeon and another man, Omar Ochoa Saturday at the apartment, a two-story building at Maria de Lourdes Buena, and Maria Gomez Rosillo, 43, were arrested Sunday. Police said they were renting the apartment for Constanzo.

Police yesterday questioned the five their role in the mutilation killings of 15 people near the US border, a police source said.

Interrogators were trying to determine if there were more cult members, and if so where they might be found, according to the source at the Mexico City attorney general's office, who insisted on anonymity.

Residents say the death of Constanzo blamed for the slayings of 15 people, most of them as human sacrifices, and the arrests of his suspected followers have calmed the fears that gripped two states sharing the Texas-Mexico border.

"People were looking over their shoulders, wondering if something horrible was going to happen to them," said Tony Zavala, a Brownsville city commissioner and professor at Texas Southmost College.

Report on global warming softened

WASHINGTON, May 9. (Agencies): Democratic senators accused the Bush administration yesterday of forcing a government scientist to soften his findings on the "greenhouse" effect in order to ease pressure for policies to end the global warming trend.

The White House acknowledged it changed Dr James Hansen's testimony prepared for the Senate to reflect administration policy but said President George Bush is concerned about global warming and has taken actions to help counter its effects.

Hansen, director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, confirmed that his testimony for the hearing had been softened by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

"This is an outrage of the first order," Senator Albert Gore, chairman of the Senate science subcommittee, told the scientist at a hearing. "It is a form of scientific fraud to force a scientist to say something he knows is untrue."

Senator Timothy Wirth, a Colorado Democrat, said: "George Bush said during the presidential campaign he wanted to fight the greenhouse effect with the White House effect. Now we may be getting a little whitewash effect."

The New York Times reported yesterday an ominous report by Hansen on global warming was altered over his objections by the OMB to reflect less of an environmental threat.

Hansen testified that computer simulations showed that if industrial and natural gases continue to increase rapidly and form around the earth and trap in heat, droughts will increase substantially in the next few decades in mid and low latitudes, and storms will increase.

But he said the OMB added a sentence to his testimony saying: "Again, I must stress that the rate and magnitude of drought, storm and temperature change are very sensitive to many physical processes mentioned above, some of which are poorly represented in the (computer simulations)."

Britain yesterday proposed a series of new foreign policy measures designed to use the United Nations to cope with global warming from the greenhouse effect.

They were outlined by Sir Crispin Tickell, a climatologist and Britain's chief UN representative. He has been advising Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on environmental problems.

Britain wants a convention or protocol on global warming to be established - similar to those intended to deal with the erosion of the ozone layer - that would set out general principles and guidelines.

Sir Crispin, who has written a book about the greenhouse effect, said he was giving careful consideration to the latest proposal by the Soviet Union for an emergency ecological aid to centre to be set up by the UN.

Joint effort

Oil spill strategy

SEATTLE, Washington, May 9. (AP): Representatives from three US states and a Canadian province are forming a task force to prevent or minimize a disaster in their waters similar to the massive Exxon oil spill in Alaska.

Officials from Alaska, Washington, Oregon and British Columbia all have separate regulations and laws governing oil shipments through their waters, as well as individual plans for responding to oil spills.

Members of the newly formed oil spill task force say a regional approach is more effective than each of the four governments working alone.

They plan to meet today to coordinate policies.

Snowstorms in east

Storms kill 23 in US

NEW YORK, May 9. (AP): A May storm dumped nearly a foot (30 centimetres) of snow on parts of the east and left marathon runners in Pittsburgh battling rain, wind and blizzards. The southern United States, meanwhile, dealt with the aftermath of storms that killed 23 people.

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The James River in Virginia caused flooding in Richmond, the effects of a tornado-laced storm system that swept across the south beginning Thursday night.

In all, the thunderstorms and tornadoes were blamed for seven deaths in Texas, five in Virginia, five in North Carolina, three in Louisiana, two in South Carolina and one in Oklahoma. More than 100 people were injured.

In hardest-hit North Carolina, Tom Ditt of the emergency management office said 17 counties reported 166 homes and businesses destroyed and 182 seriously damaged.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida: A man who distributed a flier pleading for information about his missing teen-age son was lured to town by a phony tipster and then robbed at gunpoint on Friday, the man said.

Tom Lawson flew 1,725 miles (2,776 kms) from his home in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to southern Florida after a caller told him his 16-year-old son, Tom Jr., was at the "Fort Lauderdale Boy's Club."

But instead of taking Lawson to his son, the man robbed him. The father returned home a day later without his son, or his wallet, credit cards, watch and \$150 cash.

"I feel stupid," Lawson, a 43-year-old marketing director, said Saturday by telephone from his home in Tulsa. "When someone calls and says 'I found your child,' your emotions take the lead over reason."

Tom Lawson Jr. was living with his mother in Maryland when he ran away April 21. On April 30, Tom Jr. called her, saying he was in New Orleans and needed cash. The teen promised to call again in 30 minutes but never did.

After learning from police in New Orleans that someone had seen a youth fitting his son's description at a bus station in Tallahassee, heading for Fort Lauderdale, Lawson Sr. sent a flier and photos of his son to Fort Lauderdale police. (AP)

NEW YORK: Actress Lucille Ball's family arranged Roman Catholic memorial masses in New York, Chicago and a Los Angeles suburb Monday at an hour when her fans in the United States were "used to being with Lucy."

The 77-year-old star of "I Love Lucy" died April 26, eight days after heart surgery.

"Lucille Ball was a woman who brought an awful lot of love and an awful lot of joy. It's a mass to say 'thank you' to someone who brought us so much joy," said the Rev. James Fox, celebrant for the mass in New York.

"The family wanted to have an opportunity for Lucille's fans to express their gratitude for Lucy," Fox said. "They wanted to do it with a spiritual concept."

In New York, Fox was to celebrate the mass at St. Ignace Loyola, in Chicago, the Rev. John Cerech at St. Patrick's Church, and in the Los Angeles suburb of Santa Monica, the Rev. Lloyd Tongerson at St. Monica's Church.

The masses were to begin at 8 pm local time, when popular television shows generally begin in the United States.

"Monday night was the time when most of the nation was used to being with Lucy," Ball's family said in a statement announcing the services. (AP)

WASHINGTON: Free housing enabled House Speaker Jim Wright to collect upward of \$25,000 in extra income by renting out the duplex residence he owned in Fort Worth, Texas, House records show.

Financial disclosure documents show that Wright rented out the house from 1979 through most of 1983 before selling it for more than \$250,000. Wright reported rental income in each of those years of \$5,000 to \$15,000, made possible because he and his wife had moved their belongings to housing provided by Fort Worth real estate developer George Mallick.

The housing Mallick provided, first in an apartment building and later a condominium, was valued by the House Ethics Committee at \$53,488 for the period 1979 through 1988 and is the basis for some of the 69 house rules violations alleged against the Texas Democrat.

Members of Congress are required to report their finances only in broad ranges, so it is impossible to determine the precise value of the rental income from the disclosure documents.

Wright will have to defend himself beginning later this month at a trial-like disciplinary hearing, and on Monday he announced he has assembled a



Save Amazon

BRITISH rock singer Sting and Brazilian Indian chief Rauli on Monday asked King Juan Carlos of Spain, heir to the monarchs who ordered the conquest of America, to help save the Amazon tribes and rain forest from destruction.

Rauli told the king Brazil's Indians were still dying from diseases brought by white people clearing the jungle, a spokesman for the Indian chief's campaign said.

An Indian from a newly discovered Brazilian Amazon tribe aims with a bow and arrow. (Reuter wirephoto)

Blood test

Suicide risk

SAN FRANCISCO: A blood test that measures the amount of a particular hormone may help in assessing a depressed child's risk of suicide, a new study suggests.

But researcher Cynthia Pfeiffer stressed that the approach needs further study and that results of her research provide "just a glimmer" that the test may be useful.

Pfeiffer, an associate professor of clinical psychiatry at the Cornell University Medical College, spoke in an interview before presenting the study Monday at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association.

Each year about 100 to 200 suicides occur among children age 10 to 14 in the United States, a rate of about one per 100,000 children, writes Paul Hollender, of the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago, in the newly published book "Suicide Among Youth: Perspectives on Risk and Prevention." Thousands of others attempt suicide. (AP)

three-pronged legal team to make his case before the committee, the full House and the public.

The team also was drafting defence motions which were expected to be filed later in the week, contesting some aspects of the charges. A media briefing on the defence arguments was scheduled Tuesday. (AP)

ATHENS: The November 17 terrorist group on Tuesday claimed responsibility for a bomb attack that wounded former Socialist cabinet minister George Petros.

The Marxist group said in a typewritten letter to the afternoon daily Eleftherotipia that it sought to punish Petros for his alleged involvement in a multi-million dollar financial scandal rocking the Socialist government.

November 17 said that Petros "insults and mocks the Greek people under the protection of parliamentary immunity, since neither justice nor Parliament can or wants to touch him."

The 42-year-old Socialist Party member was injured when a booby-trapped car exploded next to his automobile on Monday as he was being driven to his central Athens office.

Meanwhile, a fugitive Greek tycoon accused in a banking scandal said Monday he faces death at the hands of terrorist squads or secret police if he is forced to return.

George Kostas, 35, a former chairman of the Bank of Crete, filed papers in US district court fighting extradition to Greece, charging that senior officials of the government of Panhellenic Socialist Movement authorised plans to embezzle millions from the bank and would kill him to ensure his silence. (AP)

WASHINGTON: Officials of the Smithsonian Institution and the Museum of the American Indian in New York signed an agreement Monday to transfer the world's largest collection of American Indian artifacts to the Smithsonian.

As a symbol of the agreement, Ronald Fove, director of the New York Museum, presented Robert Adams, secretary of the Smithsonian, with a peace pipe-tomahawk.

"This single piece does, in a very real way, symbolize the entire collection," Fove said of the pipe, which had been given to Tecumseh, the Shawnee chief, by Col. Henry A. Proctor of the British Army in 1812.

The museum agreement capped years of often acrimonious negotiations among federal, state and local politicians, officials of the Smithsonian and the Indian museum, and American Indians concerned for the preservation of their heritage.

A memorandum of understanding covering the transfer was signed at a ceremony overlooking the site where the Smithsonian hopes to build the national museum of the American Indian. The museum, which would be the Smithsonian's 14th in Washington, is to display objects from the Heye Foundation collection of more than a million artifacts. (AP)

ATHENS: Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu has offered to visit Britain to testify in a libel suit he brought against the US magazine Time, his lawyer said on Monday.

"The prime minister said to me more than a month ago 'I'm prepared to come to England to testify' and he was clearly of the view... that this could occur very quickly," American lawyer Leonard Boudin told a news conference.

Papandreu filed the libel suit several weeks ago over a Time cover story in its European edition in March, which reported on \$200-million bank scandal in Greece.

FLORENCE: An Italian theatre, forced to scrap a rare night with the Leningrad Philharmonic because customs men would not give the musicians their instruments, said on Monday that the Soviet orchestra would play after all.

A statement from Florence's municipal theatre said the performance, cancelled on Saturday night while the instruments were held at Milan airport, had been rescheduled for May 14.

Two revues lead Tony

Tony nominations

NEW YORK, May 9. (AP): Two musical revues - Jerome Robbins' Broadway and Black and Blue - dominated the 1989 Tony nominations even though musical categories for book and score were eliminated this year.

Each show received 10 nominations yesterday, including nods for best musical. They will compete against Stratmates, a campy space-age musical that received six nominations.

The 1988-89 Broadway season was the poorest in terms of quantity and quality for musicals in several years. Only seven new musicals opened, compared with 14 a year ago. And several of this season's shows, particularly Carrie and Legs Diamond, were well-publicized flops.

The decision by the nominating committee to eliminate the two categories was unusual but not unprecedented. In 1985, nominations for actor and actress in a musical and for choreography were dropped. Black and Blue and Jerome Robbins' Broadway use old songs and have no book.

Lead Me a Tender, a farce by Ken Ludwig about an indisposed opera star and the nebbish who replaces him, garnered seven nominations, including for best play. Its best-play competition includes Wendy Wasserstein's The Heidi Chronicles, winner of the 1989 Pulitzer prize; Shirley Valentine, Willy Russell's comedy about an unfulfilled

English housewife, and Largely New York, Bill Irwin's play without dialogue that picked up four other nominations.

Irwin also was nominated for best acting in the play, for direction and for choreography, which he did with Kim Okada.

Other best actor nominations went to dance superstar Mikhail Baryshnikov for his portrayal of man who turns into a dung beetle in Metamorphosis, and to Philip Bosco and Victor Garber for Lead Me a Tender.

Jerome Robbins' Broadway picked up multiple nominations in two categories. Jason Alexander and Robert La Fosse were nominated for best actor in a musical and Jane Lanier, Faith Prince and Debbie Shapiro were chosen in featured actress in a musical category.

NEW YORK: Here is the list of Tony award nominations for Broadway's 1988-89 season. Winners will be announced June 4 in ceremonies at the Gerstein theatre.

■ Play: The Heidi Chronicles, Shirley Valentine, Lead Me a Tender, Largely New York.

■ Musical: Stratmates, Jerome Robbins' Broadway, Black and Blue.

■ Revival: Our Town, Cafe Crown, Ain't Misbehavin', Ah, Wilderness.

■ Actor, play: Bill Irwin, Largely New York; Victor Garber, Lead Me a Tender; Philip Bosco, Lead Me a Tender; Mikhail Baryshnikov, Metamorphosis.

■ Actress, play: Joan Allen, The Heidi Chronicles; Pauline Collins, Shirley Valentine; Madeline Kahn, Born Yesterday; Kate Nelligan, Spools of War.

■ Actor, musical: Jason Alexander, Jerome Robbins' Broadway; Gabriel Byrne, Stratmates; Brian Lane Green, Stratmates; Robert La Fosse, Jerome Robbins' Broadway.

■ Actress, musical: Sharon McNight, Stratmates; Linda Hopkins, Black and Blue; Charlotte d'Abo, Jerome Robbins' Broadway; Ruth Brown, Black and Blue.

■ Book, musical: No nominations.

■ Score, musical: No nominations.

■ Director, play: Bill Irwin, Largely New York; Gregory Mosher, Our Town; David Sullivan, The Heidi Chronicles; Jerry Zuck, Lead Me a Tender.

■ Director, musical: Larry Carpenter, Stratmates; Jerome Robbins, Jerome Robbins' Broadway; Peter Mark Schiffer, Welcome to the Club; Claudio Segovia and Hector Orendel, Black and Blue.

■ Featured (supporting) actor, play: Peter Franchette, Eastern Standard; Boyd Gaines, The Heidi Chronicles; Eric Stoltz, Our Town; Gordon Joseph Weiss, Ghetto.

■ Featured actress, play: Christine Baranski, Remains; Joanne Camp, The Heidi Chronicles; Tovah Feldshuh, Lead Me a Tender; Penelope Ann Miller, Our Town.

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Storms kill 23 in US

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MADE IN JAPAN

Baker will seek Kremlin support

US peace plan on ME

ABU DHABI, May 9, (UPI): Secretary of State James Baker will seek the Kremlin's support of a US peace plan in the Middle East by persuading its allies, Syria and the PLO, to accept Israel's proposals for elections in the occupied territories, a United Arab Emirates newspaper reported today.

The plan, however, stipulates that elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip should "only be the first stage in a comprehensive process to negotiate the final status of the occupied territories," the semi-official Al Itihad newspaper said.

Quoting an unnamed US official in Washington, the paper said the plan will be discussed by Baker during a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow tomorrow.

According to the Abu Dhabi-based paper, the plan includes the following:

● Easing tension in the occupied territories and creating the appropriate atmosphere for elections

Review complete

US' Soviet policy

WASHINGTON, May 9, (Reuters): President Bush's long-awaited review of US policy towards the Soviet Union is now complete and he will lay out his approach to America's superpower rival in a major speech this week, the White House said yesterday.

Bush, who has been criticised for responding too slowly to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's diplomatic overtures, is to speak on Friday at graduation ceremonies at a Texas university and will focus on East-West relations, his spokesman said.

"I would characterise it as presenting the president's views on how the United States would

approach its policy toward the Soviet Union from the standpoint of reintegration it into the world community," spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

Bush's speech, which will take place against a backdrop of discord in the NATO alliance over short-range nuclear missiles in Europe, "will reflect a major part of the foreign policy review as it relates to the Soviet Union," he told reporters.

The White House official noted that Bush's speech would follow Secretary of State James Baker's talks in Moscow this week with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.



Chun Ki-hwan, elder brother of exiled former president Chun Doo Hwan, being led into a Seoul courthouse where he was sentenced to four years in jail and a \$1.5 million fine for embezzling. (Reuters wirephoto)

Roh warns radicals

SEOUL, May 9, (AP): President Roh Tae-woo said today the government will crush violent protests by students and workers, and warned that "the fate of the country hinges on whether law and order can be maintained."

Roh's warning came after six riot troops were killed and 10 critically injured May 3 in fighting with radical students in the southern city of Pusan. It was the worst political violence in South Korea in recent years.

In their protests, radical students have called for the overthrow of the Roh government, while workers have pressed for pay raises and a voice in running their companies.

ardent desire is to end violent and destructive acts threatening democracy, and the fate of the country hinges on whether law and order can be maintained," Roh said in a statement.

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'Attempt' to win concessions

Ito says no to premiership

TOKYO, May 9, (UPI): Masayoshi Ito, the man considered most likely to be Japan's next prime minister, insisted today he will turn down the job unless there is a revolution in party politics to rout out corruption.

Ito, 75, a former foreign minister, is the favourite choice of Japan's political leaders for prime minister because of his reputation as a clean politician.

Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who was indirectly linked to a bribery scandal that has tainted most of Japan's top politicians, said on April 25 he will resign to help restore public confidence in government.

Ito was immediately suggested as the man most capable of cleaning up politics, and his public statements suggest he is serious about carrying out the job.

"It is useless to just change the cover of the book," Ito said at a news conference. "There must be a revolution in the party's way of thinking."

Ito, suffering from chronic diabetes, repeated earlier statements that he does not want to be prime minister. He earlier cited health reasons for his refusal.

"I have not changed my mind on that," Ito said.

But political analysts say Ito's refusal to serve is an attempt to win concessions from more powerful politicians in his party, including Takeshita.

One concession Ito reportedly wanted was to have former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone testify before the Diet, or Japanese parliament, on his role, if any, in the bribery scandal.

Nakasone said for the first time today he would consider giving testimony if other party leaders decided it was necessary. When Ito was first mentioned as a possible prime minister, it was widely assumed he would lead a caretaker government of only a few months while public anger over the scandal subsided. But Ito has let it be known he is

● Replacing violence in the territories with political dialogue
● Ensuring that elections should only be the first stage in a comprehensive plan to negotiating the final status of the occupied territories
● Releasing Palestinian political prisoners from Israeli jails and requesting Israel to create a free atmosphere for elections by not interfering in the process.

Moscow has already rejected the proposal by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir during his visit to the US last month and has described as an attempt by the Jewish state to win time in a bid to crush the Palestinian uprising, which has entered its 18th month on Monday.

Al Itihad said Washington wanted Moscow to "understand" the merits of the plan by conducting a "positive role" in persuading its friends in the region (Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation) "to drop their opposition to elections."

The paper quoted the official as saying, "the US believes the election plan could offer a breakthrough that would ease the explosive situation in the region."

Over 440 Palestinians and 15 Israelis have died in the violent uprising against Israeli rule since Dec 1987.

The paper said Washington also wants Moscow to restore its relations with Israel, cut in protest against the 1967 occupation of Arab lands in order to "ease Israel's international isolation."

Other demands on Baker's list also include asking Moscow to stop supplying Syria with advanced military equipment that could "threaten Israel's security," Al Itihad quoted the source as saying.

Moscow will also be asked to halt the delivery of advanced Sukhoi-24 fighter-bombers to Libya and "co-operate with Washington in preventing the proliferation of chemical and nuclear weapons in the Middle East," the paper said.

Baker says the Bush administration wants to test the Kremlin on issues beyond arms control and human rights.

Baker, who meets with Gorbachev on Thursday, told reporters aboard his plane, "the goal is to make it clear to the Soviets that we are seeking an active, constructive, positive and expanding relationship with the Soviet Union."

This means, Baker said, testing the Soviet Union's "new thinking" across the full range of international relations — beyond the traditional areas of arms control and human rights.

Baker said the United States recognises there is real change taking place inside the Soviet Union and President Bush wants to see whether the Soviets are prepared to apply these changes to international relations, especially in regional points of conflict, such as the Middle East.

A senior official aboard the Baker plane said, "We'll try to put a Bush stamp on the relationship by concentrating on regional and transnational issues."

Arabs might compensate WHO

PARIS, May 9, (Reuters): Arab states are studying ways of compensating for a US threat to cut off funds to the World Health Organisation if the PLO succeeds in joining the organisation, a PLO official said yesterday.

"We think we can summon up the necessary funds to ensure that WHO's programmes and activities in Africa in particular and in the Third World generally are not hurt by America's irresponsibility," said Omar Massalha, PLO observer at the Paris-

based cultural agency. UNESCO.

He did not name the Arab states involved in discussions and gave no further details.

The United States has threatened to block its contributions to the WHO's regular budget, estimated this year at about \$71 million, if the PLO is admitted to the UN agency as a full member state.

"America does not have the right to use financial blackmail every time it objects to some-

thing," Massalha told French Radio.

Israeli officials said today they were pessimistic about chances of blocking the PLO from gaining full membership of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

"It doesn't look very good for us," a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

The 166-nation WHO assembly, meeting in Geneva, is due to vote on Wednesday on an application to admit the self-declared state of Palestine to the

organisation. The PLO currently has observer status.

The vote requires only a simple majority and Israel fears the preponderance of Arab, communist and Third World states will ensure an automatic victory for the PLO.

The United States has threatened to suspend its contribution to the UN agency if it admits the PLO. Israel is expected to follow suit.

The Israeli official said that even if the assembly adopted a

procedural motion postponing a decision until next year, the wording was likely to be favourable to the PLO and hostile to Israel.

WHO chief Hiroshi Nakajima has urged members to avoid making any decision which could destroy the agency.

The WHO steering committee yesterday ignored Israel's case that only states with territory were entitled to apply.

The official said Israel feared the WHO application would set a precedent for admitting Palestine to other UN agencies.

Khamenei fails to meet Li

Iranian President visiting China



Kohl stand

Delay in talks on missiles opposed

BONN, May 9, (Agencies): Chancellor Helmut Kohl said yesterday he opposes postponement of a NATO decision on his proposal for East-West talks on reducing short-range nuclear weapons.

Kohl also said his discussions with other leaders of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation have made him confident the Western alliance can resolve a dispute over its short-range nuclear arsenal.

While Kohl has emphasised opposition to a US proposal for upgrading the 88-missile Lance system, most of which are based in West Germany, he has also voiced opposition to tactical nuclear weapons, such as artillery.

West Germany has advocated that NATO negotiate a reduction of the short-range nuclear missiles with the Warsaw pact, but the United States and Britain have steadfastly objected.

They say that a reduction would be to the advantage of the Warsaw Pact because it has many more troops and conventional weapons facing NATO forces in Europe.

Also yesterday, a West German newspaper said US President George Bush plans to call on the Soviet Union to "formally declare the cold war over" during his trip to Western Europe later in the month.

Bush, who is scheduled to attend the May 29-30 NATO summit in Brussels, will deliver a major speech calling for incremental withdrawals of Soviet troops from the East bloc, the newspaper Die Welt reported.

Kohl's call for superpower negotiations to reduce short-range nuclear weapons is at the heart of a Western alliance feud. The dispute pits the United States and Britain against West Germany and NATO nations siding with Kohl.

NATO is trying to resolve the disagreement before its Brussels summit.

BEIJING, May 9, (AP): Iranian President Ali Khamenei began a six-day visit to China today but promptly failed to show up for a meeting with Premier Li Peng, leaving the Chinese leader cooling his heels and Iranian officials explaining Khamenei was fatigued.

Khamenei, the first Iranian head of state to visit China since the Islamic revolution in 1979, arrived in the morning and was greeted by a welcoming ceremony in Tiananmen Square before a meeting with Chinese President Yang Shangkun.

But Khamenei stunned his hosts by failing to turn up for a round of talks scheduled in the afternoon with Li, who waited in a meeting room at the Great Hall of the People as officials anxiously tried to determine the Iranians whereabouts.

The session was hurriedly reset late in the afternoon when Li travelled to the Diaoyutai state guest house, where the Iranian President is staying, and met with him there.

An Iranian embassy spokesman denied reports that Khamenei was annoyed because his schedule does not now include a meeting with senior leader Deng Xiaoping.

The embassy spokesman said Khamenei was fatigued, but would complete the rest of his schedule.

Khamenei, 50, who is expected to leave office after the end of his second four-year term, last weekend appeared to have endorsed Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani to succeed him.

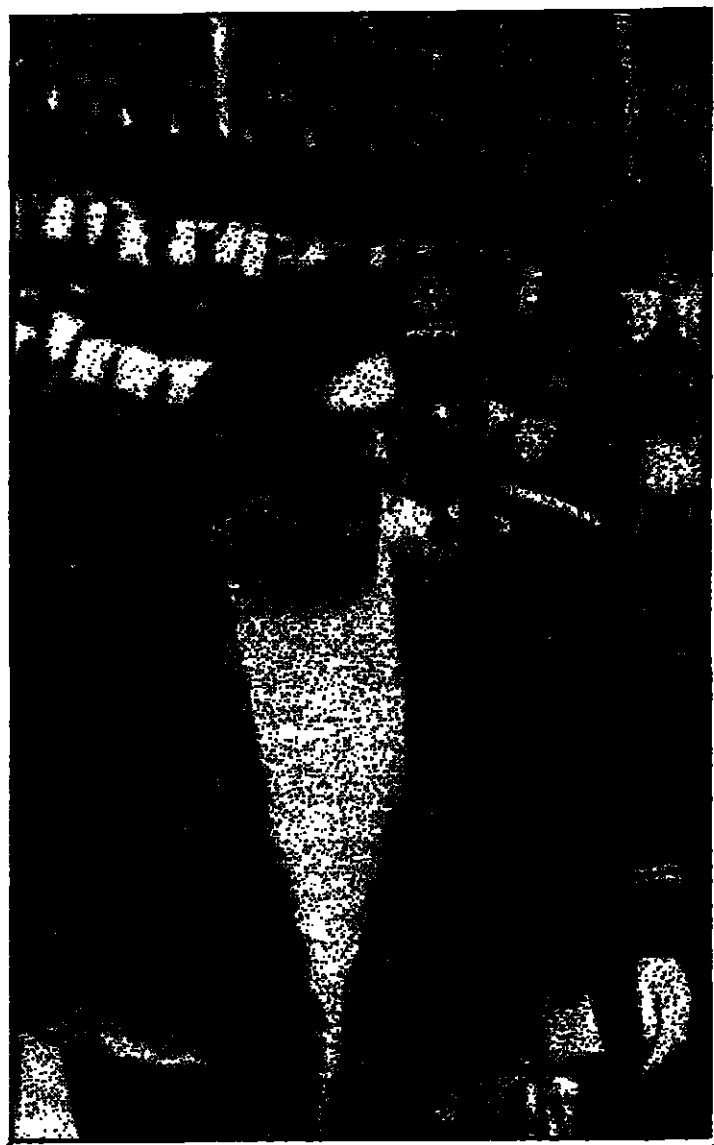
Khamenei is leading a high-level delegation whose aim is to improve economic ties with China. Trade between the two nations is expected to reach \$600 million this year, according to Iranian figures.

China was a major arms supplier to Iran during its eight-year Gulf war with Iraq, but now is attempting to turn its assistance toward economic projects such as dams and power stations and programme in the steel, paper, petrochemical and fishing industries.

With continued rocky relations with the West narrowing its chances of aid, Tehran is looking toward countries such as China for postwar economic reconstruction.

Khamenei is scheduled tomorrow for sightseeing and a meeting with Communist Party general secretary Zhao Ziyang.

The Iranian armed forces continued their four-day manoeuvres in the Gulf, aimed at upgrading joint operations between



Khamenei reviews a Chinese guard of honour in front of the Great Hall of the People during a welcoming ceremony at the start of his official state visit. (Reuters wirephoto)

between air and naval forces, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, quoted Navy commander Rear Adm. Mohammad Hussein Malekzadeh as saying that the joint manoeuvres are the biggest ever conducted by the Iranian Navy.

Iran's Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani today watched naval manoeuvres in the Gulf.

Storm over visit

Political row in Taiwan

TAIPEI, May 9, (Reuters): Taiwan officials returned from an unprecedented visit to China to face questions about whether Taipei has compromised its staunch anti-communist and is ready to deal officially with Beijing.

A 12-member delegation led by Finance Minister Shirley Kuo arrived in Taipei last night after attending a meeting of the Asian Development Bank in Beijing — the first visit by Taiwan officials to China in 40 years.

Reporters bombarded Kuo with questions at a news conference over whether the visit represented the start of official rapprochement between the

nationalist government and the communists who drove it from China in 1949.

Officials have repeatedly said the delegation went to Beijing only to attend the bank meeting.

President Lee Teng-hui told a Japanese newspaper the nationalist government had not dropped its policy of no contact with the communists or its insistence that it is still the legitimate Chinese government.

"I have repeatedly emphasised that the Republic of China (nationalist) government insists on a one China policy," he told the Yomiuri Shimbun in an interview printed in Taiwan newspapers today.

Peacock is Liberal

chief again

CANBERRA, May 9, (Reuters): Charismatic Andrew Peacock seized back the leadership of Australia's opposition Liberal Party today and immediately challenged his ruling Labour rivals to an election.

"If the government calls an election now we will relish it," said Peacock, 50, after winning a no-confidence vote over John Howard, criticised for weak leadership.

While Peacock engineered the coup, the Liberals' small National Party coalition partners replaced their long-time leader Ian Sinclair with the more vocal Charles Blunt.

Recent opinion polls have put the coalition ahead of Labour, currently unpopular among voters for home loan interest rates set at 16 per cent to curb a consumer spending boom.

But Liberal Party sources said there had still been a need for changes in the leadership of the grouping, which holds 63 seats against Labour's 85 in the lower house of parliament.

Prime Minister Bob Hawke, 59, biding his time for a fall in interest rates and inflation, currently 6.9 per cent, indicated he would not rise to Peacock's challenge.

Hawke's office said he would not call an election this year.



Gunman apprehended

A gunman doused a kindergarten classroom with gasoline and held four children hostage for seven hours on Tuesday before he was apprehended, Melbourne police said.

The gunman, believed to be a Turkish migrant, was

dragged from the schoolroom by police with blood streaming down his right cheek, authorities said.

Picture shows Melbourne police take away the gunman (centre). (Reuters wirephoto)

Danish police accuse press of inaccurate reporting

COPENHAGEN, May 9, (Reuters): Danish police yesterday denied weekend newspaper reports saying a Danish gang charged with hoarding a huge weapons cache planned to kidnap a Swedish industrialist.

The daily Fri Aktuelt quoted inspector Kurt Olsen as accusing the Danish press of wild and inaccurate reporting of the case.

Olsen denied a report in the Jyllands-Posten on Sunday saying that police uncovered plans to kidnap industrialist Peter Wallenberg, 63, and other influential people when

they discovered the arms cache in a Copenhagen flat last week.

"I want to pull down a curtain" on the investigation. "It's important to bring the case down to its proper level," Fri Aktuelt quoted Olsen as saying.

He also denied a Jyllands-Posten report saying a team of Danish anti-terrorist police was involved in a car crash which led to the arms discovery and the arrest of four people. Some press reports about the case had been guesswork, others had been lies, Olsen said.

"We've reached a point where newspapers are trying to outdo each other, regardless of the accuracy of what they report."

Olsen was not available for comment, but a colleague confirmed the accuracy of the report.

The case has been headline news for nearly four weeks, during which 11 Danes were arrested in two dramatic operations and charged with a kidnapping, five major robberies and killing a policeman. One has been released.

Fatima Outkirk

PARIS, May 9, (Reuters): A Moroccan exile group said yesterday that the widow of a Moroccan general who launched a 1972 coup attempt against King Hassan may have died after 17 years in detention.

The Committee for the Liberation of Prisoners of Opinion in Morocco (CALPOM) called for international pressure on Rabat to announce if Fatima Outkirk was alive or dead.

Incentives

BAGHDAD, May 9, (AP): The government is providing land and cash incentives for civil servants to settle in the southern part of Basra, the Al Thawra newspaper reported today.

Al Thawra said that President Saddam Hussein ordered that a plot of land in Basra and a bank loan should be granted to government employees who make the move.

In addition, each civil servant will receive 3,000 dinars (\$9,600) as a gift toward building a home, a newspaper quoted local government minister Adnan Dawoud Salam as saying.

Djamouss captured

N'DJAMENA, May 9, (Reuters): Chadian President Hissene Habre said yesterday his troops had captured Army commander Hissene Djamouss who fled to neighbouring Sudan after an abortive rebellion last month.

Habre told a rally in the capital N'Djamena that another rebel, Khirif Deby, was still in Sudan, and warned of a further possible coup attempt.

Habre loyalists burned posters of Djamouss, Deby and former Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahamat Ito at the rally. The three men fled after the April 1 rebellion was crushed.

Pact replaced

KUWAIT, May 9, (KUNA): Sudanese Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Al Hussein has confirmed that his country had repudiated a joint defence pact with Egypt, but he said the move would not adversely affect bilateral relations between the two countries.

Al Hussein stated that the defence pact with Egypt, concluded by former Sudanese President Jafar Nimeiri, had been replaced by "a brotherhood charter" to enhance co-operation between Sudan and Egypt in various fields.

Truck hits post

CAIRO, May 9, (Reuters): Six children were killed and 10 others badly hurt when a truckload of youngsters hit a lamp post and plunged into a lake in Egypt, police said yesterday.

They said 30 children were aged between 10 and 14 years and were singing and dancing on board the truck on Sunday evening when the accident happened in the Damietta region in north Egypt.

Conscription law

AMMAN, May 9, (KUNA): Substantial changes had ascended on the conscription law in Jordan, informed sources here said today.

The sources told KUNA that the Army will soon employ a number of recruits for a two year period in various government institutions, indicating that such a procedure, which will be put into effect for the first time, aims at cutting down expenditures.

They noted that Jordanian nationalists living abroad will have their post-ponements renewed annually whether they work or study.

15 hanged

ATHENS, May 9, (UPI): Another 15 convicted narcotic drug traffickers were hanged in the southern Iranian city of Shiraz early, bringing to at least 684 the total number of people executed in Iran on criminal charges since the beginning of this year.

Tehran Radio monitored in Athens said the authorities in Shiraz, some 410 miles (660 km) south of Tehran, publicly hanged another 15 people in the early morning hours, after an Islamic revolutionary court convicted them of narcotic drug trafficking.

Hassan praised

ROME, May 9, (KUNA): Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti met here yesterday with Western Sahara Polisario movement leader, Mahfouz Ali Beida, on the latter's request.

According to Italian sources, Andreotti highly applauded Moroccan monarch King Hassan II, whom he said, had dealt with the Western Sahara issue in "positive attitude" that led to surpassing all disagreements which erupted among some Arab Maghreb states over that problem.

Death for forgery

NICOSIA, May 9, (Reuters): Iran will put to death people who forge its currency with subversive intent, Tehran Radio said today.

It quoted Finance Minister Mohammad Javad Tavakoli as saying a law to this effect would be introduced this month. Forgers operating in groups would also be sentenced to death, as would people who knowingly imported counterfeit bills.

Economically viable state

Study on Palestine

WASHINGTON, May 9, (KUNA): A new Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip can be economically viable provided that within a short period of time, it is able to overcome its inherited handicaps and proceed on a course of sustainable economic growth.

This is one of the main conclusions of a major new study just completed — and acquired by KUNA — that looks in detail at all aspects of the new state's economy, its legacy and its future.



Demanding a state

The author of the study is Dr George Abed, who is currently the executive director of the Geneva-based and Palestinian-run and financed Welfare Association. The association caters for the economic welfare and development of Palestinians in the occupied territories and Israel.

For ten years, Abed was a high-ranking official of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) before he quit to set up and head the Welfare Association. In his introduction, the Palestinian economist seeks to emphasise the fact that the Palestinians' right to self-determination and sovereignty "does not require confirmation by arguments of economic viability."

Since World War II, he explains, over 130 countries have become independent, "nobody even tried to justify their right to sovereignty on grounds of economic viability nor to deny it on grounds of absence of it."

Nevertheless, in his study, Abed sets out to refute

scepticisms being spread by Israel that the Palestinian state cannot be viable.

According to the survey, however, the only means of ensuring the conditions needed for the viability of the state is through the articulation of a comprehensive reconstruction and development programme and underpinning it by adequate resources. These include human, technical, and financial resources.

The economic implications of a settlement, the study points out, give rise to three substantial problems of adjustment in the post-settlement period. These are: the inter-related problems of demography, resource constraints, and economic structure.

At the demographic level, there is at present a total of 1.6 million Palestinian Arabs living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip compared to about 4.3 million Israelis, including about 700,000 Arabs, living in Israel.

The Abed study estimates that during the first 1-2 years after the establishment of the state, nearly 700,000 Palestinians residing abroad will seek to return while an additional 340,000 refugees now living in camps in the West Bank and Gaza will need to be included in the absorption and settlement programme during the transitional period.

With this additional influx the population of the Palestinian state will rise almost to 2.3 million. By the year 2,000, the total population would increase by an additional one million, rising to about 3.3 million.

The second major problem that must be tackled by the new Palestinian state is that of natural resources, namely land and water.

The economist assumes that any settlement would ensure "the return to full Palestinian Arab control of all natural resources, specifically land and water, forcibly and illegally appropriated by Israel during the period of occupation."

"The future economic well-being of the Palestinian state is critically dependent on the renewed availability of these resources," the study emphasises. "It is imperative that any political settlement provide for the restoration of Palestinian rights to the water now used by Israel, an amount which constitutes more than 20 per cent of its total annual water supply."

Other interesting findings in this detailed Palestinian study include the following:

■ In terms of restructuring, there would have to be considerable increase in the output of agriculture and industry and a great expansion and modernisation of the services sectors. The share of industry in GDP, which has stagnated at seven to nine per cent for the past 22 years, would have to be raised to a more normal 20-25 per cent.

■ For the Palestinian economy to transcend the resource constraints and avoid slipping into a state of underdevelopment, it would have to invest enormous resources in the training and retraining of manpower, in basic and applied research, and in the adaptation and development of high-skill techniques.

■ Estimates of infrastructural costs of a 10-year development programme — social and manpower development — (at 1990 prices) will be just under \$15 billion.

■ It is estimated that investment in the industrial sector will need to be about \$6 billion, in the agricultural sector about \$2 billion, and about \$1 billion in tourism and other services.

■ It is estimated that of the total public infrastructural cost of \$15 billion dollars, about \$7 billion could come from the Arab countries, another six billion from official bilateral assistance, and \$3 billion from international financial and development institutions.

The private sector share of the programme about \$9 billion, will come largely from private Palestinian, Arab, and international businessmen and entrepreneurs.

■ In terms of employment impact of the expenditure programme, the infrastructural programme, could employ as many as 70,000 workers annually. More than 120,000 job opportunities will be created on an annual basis.

This would leave the emerging Palestinian economy with the task of creating an additional 100,000 jobs.

Skirting Israeli measures

Education a crime

WASHINGTON, May 9, (KUNA): Since Israel has declared going to school a criminal act, education efforts have had to be inventive, Palestinians agreed.

And they worried that Israel's orders may last for years and be a deliberate attempt to cause illiteracy among the Palestinians — among the world's best-educated peoples.

Speaking to the New York Times on ways to skirt the 16-month shutdown of institutions, one senior Bir Zeit University student told the New York Times.

"I put my books in a bag wrapped with papers so maybe the Army will think it's fruit."

And political science professor Ali Jarbawi, noting the frustration of trying to teach Palestinians in defiance of Israel's regulations, said: "Students jump every time they hear a car, thinking maybe it's the Army."

United Nations official Rolf van Uye gave voice to Palestinian fears of an indefinite Israel crackdown on West Bank schools.

Observing even the home-teaching classes were declared illegal after Israel locked the UN's 90 schools there, he stated, "we now have thousands of eight-year-old illiterates."

He said the international body had distributed 10,000 books on various subjects to homes in the occupied lands, only to see them banned and the programme outlawed.

"It's all so ridiculous," Van Uye said, adding, "they're making education even of little children a crime."

Israeli officials issued a terse "no comment" when asked when the schools would reopen.

Oddly, Arab educators said, Israel left schools in the Gaza Strip alone despite there being more active resistance to Israeli occupation there.

Israel maintains that Arab schools are a "breeding ground for violence."



Soldier missing

Israeli women soldiers search for a missing soldier believed kidnapped by Palestinian commandos near the Gaza Strip. Another long-

missing soldier was buried on Monday after his body was found in a shallow grave. (Reuters wirephoto)

France steps in as Senegal-Mauritania riot row intensifies

DAKAR, May 9, (Reuters): Senegal and Mauritania, at odds since last month's bloody ethnic riots, intensified their war of words and France stepped in to cool tensions between two of the world's poorest nations.

Senegal, incensed by Mauritania's charge that it was to blame for the riots which killed hundreds of people, accused its neighbour yesterday of virtually declaring war.

"Speaking as an ordinary citizen, I would describe (Mauritania) President Mohamed Maouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya's accusations as in effect a

declaration of war," a close aide to Senegal's President Abdou Diouf said on Dakar state radio. The Senegalese leader has made no direct comment.

In a speech on Sunday night, Taya denied eyewitness reports of widespread killings in Mauritania. He accused Senegalese security forces of turning a blind eye when Mauritians and their property were attacked.

French Socialist President Francois Mitterrand, anxious to soothe passions in the region ahead of a

French-speaking conference due in a fortnight in Senegal, sent his son and chief adviser for African affairs to both capitals.

"France is very saddened by the sufferings endured in these two nations. We are anxious to see peace return in your hearts and in your lives," he told reporters after talks with Diouf.

Mauritania has cut by two hours a curfew imposed on the country's two main towns to halt anti-Senegalese riots, Nouakchott state radio reported last night.

Afghan Army using missiles

Rebels plan offensive

KABUL, May 9, (Reuters): The Afghan Army has resorted to increased use of Soviet-supplied long-range missiles in an apparent bid to thwart mujahedeen plans for new offensives against major cities near the Pakistani border.

Military units in Kabul have fired volleys of missiles at rebel positions in the past two days, sending shock waves through the capital and shattering the morning peace.

The missiles with a range of 380 km (240 miles) are usually fired at dawn, trailing a blazing path over the Afghan capital as they travel south towards the provinces of Nangarhar, Paktia, Kandahar and Gazni.

The government say the missiles, flown in on Soviet transport planes, have played a major role in destroying mujahedeen concentrations, supplies and defence lines.

Rumours in Kabul say one of the missiles missed its target and slammed into a school in the provincial capital of Gazni last week, killing 60 students and injuring about 100.

At least one of the missiles

overshot rebel positions in Afghanistan and landed in Pakistani territory, causing widespread damage last month.

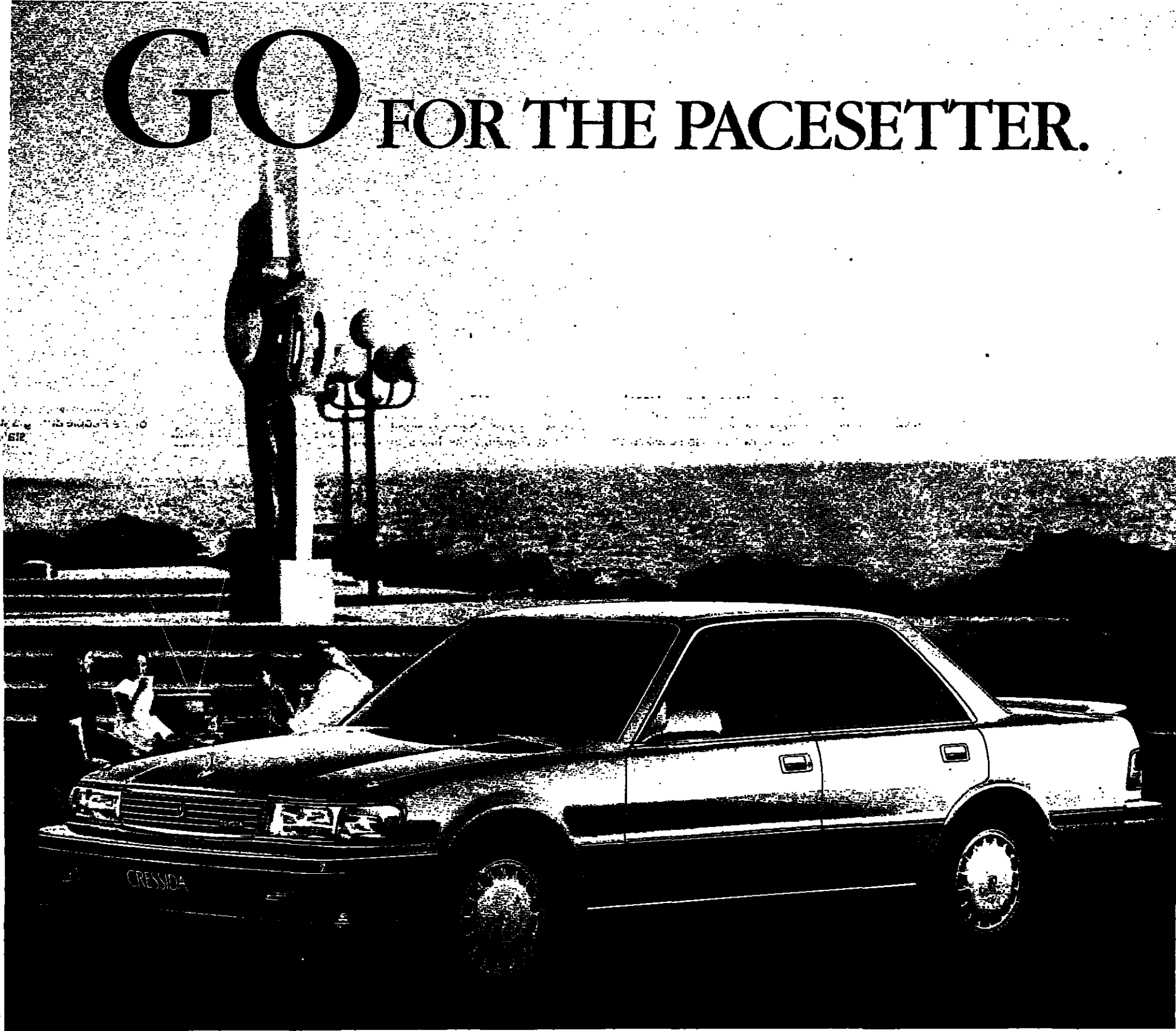
The missiles combined with air strikes have proved the most effective weapon against mujahedeen forces who launched an offensive against the eastern city of Jalalabad in March with the aim of capturing it as a base for a rival government.

The offensive failed but the mujahedeen have spoken of plans for a new offensive to break the will of government troops defending vulnerable cities near the Pakistani border.

The government has responded by reinforcing the Jalalabad garrison and maintains it has the power to smash any new push by the Western-backed rebels.

A government spokesman said the rebels had launched a new attack on Jalalabad on Friday, but the Army had pushed them back and in some areas made gains.

The spokesman said government troops were conducting mopping up operations around Jalalabad after capturing a number of mujahedeen posts.



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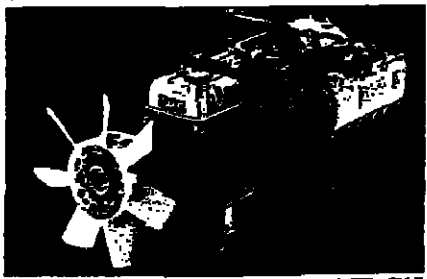
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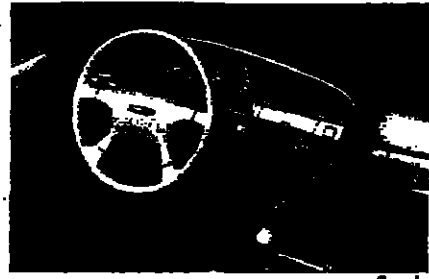
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Kuwaiti aid to Palestine and Lebanon

VIENNA, May 9 (KUNA): The UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has announced that Kuwait had furnished \$1.5 million in additional aid to finance emergency programmes, sponsored by the agency in occupied Palestine and Lebanon.

In a statement published here today, UNRWA added that the total of additional Kuwaiti aid to the agency's emergency programmes is now at \$6.5 million.

The programmes include relief aid in the fields of medicine, foodstuff and education for Palestinians in the occupied territories, in order to confront the collapsing living conditions there as a result of the Israeli brutal policy aimed at terminating a 17-month-old uprising.

Kuwait is second only to Italy, which donated \$9 million in furnishing aid to UNRWA's relief programmes for Palestinians.

One million dollars being collected from wealthy Muslims

THE chairman of the Islamic International Charity Authority based in Kuwait, Yousef Jassem Al Hajji, said that a charitable project of "One Million Dollars" is being collected.

Primarily, donations are being sought from wealthy Muslims, but other people can contribute according to their abilities. A similar project was completed and the present ongoing project is the second of its kind.

Hajji said that the authority established the Palestine Charitable Committee last year. The committee supports the Palestinian brothers in occupied Palestine. It also has established the Asian Muslim Committee that supports Muslim brothers in the Far East.

He added that the two committees succeeded in their work and became active in collecting money for needy people in Palestine and the Far East. The authority recently issued the first issue of its internal magazine "Khairiya" that explains the different activities and plans of the authority. The second issue is to be published shortly.

All Islamic charitable societies and organisations in the world represent the authority in their respective countries. The authority has opened three offices in Niger, Uganda and Sudan. An agreement to open a new office in Jordan has also been signed, Hajji added.

Smugglers arrested

SECURITY men in Sulaybiya have managed to arrest a five-man ring of arms and liquor smugglers in Kheitan, and seized arms and 30 liquor cartons, over and above cash amounts of money.

The suspects and the contraband have been referred for questioning to the relevant security authorities.

Meanwhile, Ardiya Co-operative Society last Friday was the scene of a robbery at which KD 10,000 was stolen from the manager's room, being the total sale amount for that day.

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Born on: 25-7-1922

(Daman)

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Inserted by her sorrowful

brother John Bosco,

nephew Christopher, sons

Tony, Succorn, Sarfana,

daughter-in-law Nirmala,

Julie, grandchildren

Savio, Anthony, Jerry,

Nelira, Anish and Glenda.

Sultan Qaboos to visit Kuwait next Sunday

Visit to reflect positively on Arab relations

KUWAIT, May 9 (KUNA): Omani Information Minister Abdel Aziz Al Rawas has attached great importance to the official visit to Kuwait next Sunday by Sultan of Oman, Qaboos Bin Saeed saying it would further boost brotherly bonds of the two countries.

Rawas said in remarks to the Kuwaiti press, that Sultan Qaboos' visit which comes in response to an invitation extended by HH the Amir would also be

the interest of the Gulf Co-operation Council and would consequently reflect positively on Arab relations.

He affirmed that the scheduled summit talks between HH the Amir and the Omani Sultan would be of vital importance due to the two leaders' keenness on pushing forward comprehensive peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

The Omani minister also

lauded sincere efforts of Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed to contain the Lebanese crisis within the context of his chairmanship of the Arab League Good Offices Committee on Lebanon.

He praised in particular Sheikh Sabah's statement that "there was no magic wand resolving the Lebanese ordeal and that the concerned Lebanese parties must show tendency to

close co-operation to solve the crisis which represents a bleeding wound in the Arab world."

Egypt

Rawas said that great hopes were attached to the proposed extra-ordinary Arab summit, in Morocco later this month, to settle all differences and disputes among Arab countries.

He stressed the significance of re-admittance of Egypt to the Arab League "due to its big political weight."

He disclosed that one of the planned emergency summit's agenda items would be the restoration of Egypt's membership.

Rawas said that the abrogation by his country of the British-built Tornado aircraft deal does not carry any political indications.

The decision, he added, was made due to economic and commercial reasons resulting from financial and oil market conditions imposed on the sultanate.



Pictured here (from left) Suhaila Zafari (1st runner-up), Adeb Shuaiber, Simeen Kadi, Elvira D'Souza (2nd runner up) and seated Summer Queen '89 Priya Purshottam.

Weekend Club crowns Summer Queen

AT a glittering evening of fun and music the Weekend Club crowned its Summer Queen '89 at the Regency Palace hotel on the first day of Eid.

Priya Purshottam, an Indian beauty walked away with the crown and a gold necklace along with a host of other prizes with her winning smile and her svelte figure.

Suhaila Zafari, an Iranian student was first runner up while Elvira D'Souza, another Indian came in third.

In the final line up the audience had already predicted a tie between Priya and Suhaila but the Indian lady came up winners when she got full marks for telling everybody straight from the heart

that Marilyn Monroe was her favourite personality. Unfortunately Suhaila couldn't answer when asked if she thought women were more capable than men.

Also featured at the all-night affair was a lively five contest, novelty dances and a door prize of an airline ticket Kuwait-Bombay-Kuwait from Gulf Air.

The show which was sponsored by Rothmans and co-sponsored by Abdul Hadi Malleem and Ashraf had Kuwait's liveliest bands Perfect Strangers and Top Ranks making sure that everybody was glued to the dance floor until 6 am. The evening's compères were Adeb Shuaiber and Simeen Kadi, both Kuwait TV personalities.

Arab Fund to finance new Arabic dictionary

THE Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development based in Kuwait is working to finance the issuing of an Arab modern dictionary that will be useful to Arab researchers and specialists, a local daily has reported.

The daily added that Chairman of the Fund Abdul Latif Al Hamad met the work team of the project headed by Dr Usman Saadi.

Saadi stressed on the importance of a modern Arab dictionary that copes with latest developments and inventions. Hamad told the team that the fund has ambitions to make the dictionary the nucleus of a specialised scientific institution called the Arab Dictionary Institution the same as Oxford house that is specialised in issuing dictionaries. The fund is interested in such a project because one of its aims is to achieve social and cultural development in the Arab world. The fund allocated a sufficient budget for the project which can also be increased if necessary.

Computer services
Meanwhile sources of the fund said that the Arab dictionary project will benefit from available computer services to store inputs. The dictionary will be the first Arab publication using the computer, they added. They also said that Kuwait was selected to be the premise of the committee that will supervise the issuing of the dictionary.

The committee comprises of a number of Arab specialists and professors who are famous in the field of Arabic language. Each

one of them will collect a part of the material for the dictionary. The members of the committee will head six centres in different Arab countries. Saadi will head the Kuwait centre. Each centre will have six specialists in different science majors. The Kuwait centre has been asked to collect and prepare human sciences terminology that should not exceed 1,500 items and which will be put in alphabetic order.

Survey
The centre was also asked to make a survey of the writings of three literary Kuwaiti men Ahmad Al Udwani (poet), Abdul Razzak Al Baseer (writer), and Sulaiman Al Khulaf (novelist) beside the writings of the Bahraini writer Ibrahim Al Areebi. The centre will also make a survey for production of a local Arabic paper in one year. The paper will cover editorials, political commentaries, and economic, arts, women, sport, society and advertisement pages.

Using the computer will help to store at least 100,000 inputs with an average of ten vocabularies in each input. They added that there is an ability to add pictures and drawings to the text. They added that the dictionary is expected to include more than 60,000 inputs. It will be of average size and in two volumes. The sources added that work on the project began from the beginning of last month. The project will take 18 months to be completed and then six months to be printed before being ready for distribution.

No gifts to medicos, says KMA official

THE secretary-general of the Kuwait Medical Association Dr Bader Hamadeh has called on citizens and residents to refrain from offering doctors or nurses any gift of any type whatsoever, at the same time urging doctors and nurses not to accept such offerings under any circumstances.

He told a local daily that the medical or related professions are essentially a human mission, and therefore no form of reward by patients was expected by doctors or nurses in return for the performance of their duties.

He said that doctors and nurses were basically employees with salaries for their services, and that their sole duty was to perform their duties and ensure that patients received the best treatment possible, whether these be friends, relatives or total strangers.

He described the acceptance of gifts as a tactless gesture which could soon develop into a sort of bribery and consequently have grave negative effects on the medical profession.

Hamadeh said that patients who face difficulty in dealing with doctors as a result of problems should address their complaints and problems to the association for consideration and action accordingly.

He expressed the association's keenness to sort out any problems that might arise in the future, if any, without any bias, and that the guilty would be punished by the doctors or nurses.

He pointed out that the association was not planning to go on a fault-finding hunt, but whenever there is a miscarriage of duties, deep investigation would be performed to establish the reasons and those responsible.

The official said that a fault-investigating committee had been formed by the association with the blessings of the minister of public health which would immediately start to work in order that negligent staff be called to official account if proven guilty.

Novel method of assistance to poor

FOR the first time a charitable authority in Kuwait has taken the responsibility of receiving surplus food items in order to provide assistance to needy families.

The idea of the charitable committee is not new to the Arab world as it was previously implemented in Saudi Arabia. The Kuwaiti committee receives the surplus of food and dried food from the public and merchants. Foods presented to charity should have a validity date of at least two months. The committee also collects Al Fitr Zakat and sacrificial meat.

The charitable organisation was established during the end of the last year. Dr Ahmad Al Mzaini is the founder and head of the organisation. A local daily visited the committee headquarters in Adailiya, opposite the Commerce, Economy and Political Sciences college to view

work procedures implemented there.

HH the Amir was the first to give 100 meals from Damsan palace daily to the committee as assistance, according to Mzaini. He added that the committee in working on long and short term planning.

At present, the committee started to indicate its most active areas in Kuwait, in addition to limiting the responsibilities of volunteers who distribute to almost 75 per cent of Kuwait areas and provide the committee with information on needy families.

The committee distributes constant assistance to 205 families who have been approved by the volunteers. He urged needy families to contact the committee in order to receive their assistance and added that every step will be dealt with the strictest confidence.

Yugoslav minister to arrive

BELGRADE, May 9 (KUNA): Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs Budimir Lonchar will arrive in Kuwait on Tuesday after a few hours working visit to Egypt.

In Kuwait, Lonchar is expected to discuss over two days the current situation in the Gulf region and the Lebanese crisis.

Kuwait heads the six man Arab committee, which was established to help resolve the Lebanese crisis.

Lonchar is expected to discuss with Kuwait Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister,

Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah recent developments in the Non-Aligned Movement summit scheduled to be held in Yugoslavia next September.

The Yugoslav diplomat is also expected to discuss in the Egyptian capital NAM agenda topics namely, the Middle East crisis, the Palestinian issue and the security situation in the Mediterranean basin.

Talks will also centre on preparations for the NAM foreign ministers conference to be held in Harare on May 17-19.

Public authority finalises afforestation plan

THE director of the plant resources department at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources

Jasem Al Sader has said that the authority has finalised short-, medium-, and long-term plans to execute most of the national landscaping and beautification process.

Support

He told a local daily that the general purpose of this project is to secure full and adequate support to direct short-term plans to ensure that these plans become an integral part of the national greening process.

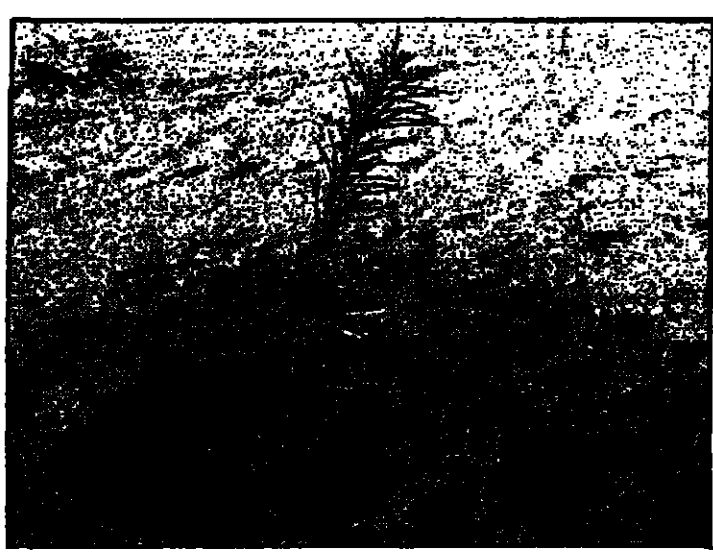
Preliminary work will start in the proposed three new towns, namely Subiya, Khiran and Wafra spaced at a distance of five square kilometres each, the

official said.

He added that this would be coupled by the planting of trees alongside external roads at a total length of 760 km, the construction of desert parks, Bubyar park, natural resorts at 800 square kilometers.

Desert parks

Afforestation plans also include planting trees along the sides of motorways at a length of 500 km. It also includes planting trees on a stretch of 150 km in the northern borders. The plan also includes the establishment of 23 gardens at a combined total area of 700,000 sq. meters, four major national parks, three suburb parks including completing the afforestation of 100 million square meters, Bader said.



Desert areas like the one pictured above are being planted with trees and shrubs.

Social Affairs Ministry to organise 39th scout camp

THE controller of scouts and youth camps at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour Sulaiman Al Ashwak has said that ministry has organised 38 youth camps since 1969. He added that ministry will organise the 39th camp during the coming few months. The first camp that was held in 1969 was attended by 70 Kuwaiti youths and last one was attended by 104 youths. The youth camps aim at helping young people to depend on themselves and to train them to serve

society as well as strengthen relations among themselves. The ministry prepared two camps for youths one in Jahra and another one in Sulaybiya area. The members of these camps afforested the camps areas. They established a public garden in Udayiya area and planted the seedlings in Sulaybiya and Sulaybiyhat. They also carried out campaigns to clean the coasts and desert. The youths also planted trees at a park for patients of the paediatrics hospital, he said.

Meanwhile, the controller of the childhood services and kindergartens of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Nawal Al Sallal has stressed that the ministry is concerned with providing kindergartens for children and that it began establishing them in 1962. There are now 10 kindergartens in different areas. These are considered educational institutions for 7,376 children. The ministry provides these kindergartens

with specialised supervisors in order that they become suitable to receive children of different ages. The kindergartens offer different educational, social, cultural and entertainment programmes. The children show a keen interest in camps, trips and religious activities. The ministry is concerned with inculcating religious concepts and values in children. The kindergartens are a suitable place to link children with their national and religious heritage, Sallal added.

Shortage of nurses delays opening of health centres

THE director of the Initial Central Care Department Dr Sammy Matar has said that the health centres of Ardiya, Hadiya and Mangaf will be opened in two months time, and that the delay is attributed to a shortage in the nursing staff and pharmacists.

He said that the medical profession is an all-integrated

process, and that any fault at one point will definitely affect the whole process, adding that the department was going ahead with the application of the new health registration system.

Registration

Matar said the introduction of the new health registration sys-

tem into Adan Hospital was still in progress and that, for lack of certain documents, it should have finished three months back.

He ruled out the possibility of separating the childhood, maternity and school health from the department, stressing that the services rendered related to dif-

ferent stages of man's life, from cradle to grave.

He said that patient transfer forms were available in triplicate the first kept at the centre's archives, the second and third delivered to hospital of which one would be used by the hospital to inform the centre of the diagnostic result.

Diwanis are beneficial to citizens

THE increase in the number of Diwanis in Kuwait is a positive phenomena, according to one Diwaniya patron who was interviewed by a local daily.

At the Diwaniya of Abdul Latif Al Barjis, the Governor of Hawalli, patrons come to discuss a number of matters and to enjoy each others company. One of the patrons said that Diwanis have several benefits to citizens. They are considered the number one stage to discuss different views of people on the social, economical and political issues.

Traditions

Barjis, who was present at the Diwaniya said that the expansion witnessed by Kuwait and the increase in the number of population accompanied with the

appearance of new traditions and habits have led to the disunion of families.

Regarding the recent vandalism incidents in most governorates, Barjis said that most of these incidents were caused by youngsters between the ages of 14 to 17 years. This is a very critical age period most youths pass through Barjis said and added that parents should exert more efforts towards guiding their childrens behaviour during this stage.

He added that the government is held accountable for the security and education of youths, but are not responsible for their upbringing which is the duty of parents.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri audience

KUWAIT, May 9, (KUNA): HH the Amir received in audience today HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber.

Amiri cable

KUWAIT, May 9, (KUNA): HH the Amir sent a cable of congratulations today to Czechoslovakia's President on the occasion of his country's national day.

Crown Prince audience

KUWAIT, May 9, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah received at his diwan in Bayan Palace today Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed, Planning Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadhi and Higher Education Minister Dr Ali Al Shamlan.

Premier's cable

KUWAIT, May 9, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah today sent a cable of congratulations to Czechoslovak Premier Ladislav Adamec on the occasion of his country's national day.

Sabah meetings

KUWAIT, May 9, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed conferred here today with the GCC Secretary-General Abdallah Yaqoub Bishara. Bishara briefed Sheikh Sabah on the activities of the GCC secretariat and its regional and international contacts within the framework of boosting co-operation between the GCC and other similar groups.

Car kicker fined

THE misdemeanor court has fined a man KD50 for kicking a police patrol vehicle.

The court heard that two policemen were driving down Beirut Street on a routine patrol mission when the suspect suddenly rushed towards their car and kicked it several times causing damage estimated at KD44. The court declined to issue a statutory three-year jail term on the grounds that the accused was considered to be unstable.

Emergency plan

THE emergency plan formulated by the Medical Emergency Department at Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health aims at mobilising the ministry's potentials for minimising the effects of any sudden disaster and treating casualties, according to a senior ministry official.

The plan is based on the early warning system to immediately respond to any signs of disaster, according to Dr Saad Al Munayes, the director of the emergency department. The plan also includes the clause of declaring a state of emergency at any hospital in accordance with a scheme to be implemented by emergency officials. Casualties in such cases have been divided into three categories. Ordinary emergency cases will be applicable to three to 10 cases. The second will deal with 11 to 150 casualties. In these instances, hospitals should be provided with necessary telecommunication networks to facilitate necessary communication with ambulance centres. The third category will depend on the period of hospitalisation and the severity of the casualty, Munayes added.

WEATHER

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with light variable to moderate north-westerly wind.
State of sea: Slight to moderate
High water: 4.00 am, 2.00 pm
Low water: 9.00 am, 10.00 pm
Sunrise: 4.59 am
Sunset: 6.30 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 31°C 88°F
Ahmed: 28°C 82°F
Fahala: 28°C 82°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 22°C 72°F
Ahmed: 24°C 75°F
Fahala: 24°C 75°F
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 32°C 90°F
Ahmed: 28°C 82°F
Fahala: 29°C 84°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 46 per cent
Ahmed: 56 per cent
Fahala: 78 per cent

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Youth bemoan lack of entertainment facilities in Kuwait

Country geared only for families

KUWAIT International Airport, this Eid holidays witnessed scenes reminiscent of past Eids when the airport is crowded with an exodus of travellers taking the opportunity of spending a brief holiday abroad.

The majority of travellers are youths accompanied by friends of their ages who said that travelling during this season has sort of become a habit with them, according to a local daily who toured the departure hall to ascertain views of travellers during this season.

A large section of youths who were confirming their reservations at the airport said: "Generally speaking, we are always

mistreated and most entertainment sites in Kuwait are designated for families only. Places of entertainment of youths is severely restricted," they added.

Lack

Conversely, families interviewed at the airport said they preferred spending Eid holidays in Kuwait. But, sometimes, circumstances force them to travel abroad. They added that weather conditions in Kuwait and the routine in Kuwait — both work and life, are the main reasons which compel them to travel abroad.

Others cited holidays as being ideally suited to practice trade

and tourism simultaneously.

Reverting to the view points of youths, the daily said that the youths claimed that they enjoy good times abroad due to the fact that Kuwait lacks entertainment facilities. Travelling abroad relieves the pressure imposed on them due to denying them entertainment facilities, they added. Travelling abroad, they said, is the only way they could find more freedom and is a good change. Others claimed that travelling to new lands was a hobby.

Youths called upon officials to study their conditions and to pay more concern to youth entertainment. They said that youths form

a majority of the population and that entertainment constitutes an important ingredient in their social well being.

Khalifa Al Dalmani prefers to spend Eid holidays with family members, but travels mainly for trade. He was leaving for Syria to buy some goods which he will sell to the public in Fahaheel. He preferred Syria to other places because of the currency difference which gives him the opportunity to get goods at the cheapest price.

Khalaf Abbas Khalaf, an employee at one of the ministries said that he was travelling to Dubai along with his wife, mother and children to spend Eid

holidays there. He said that he travels during most Eids because Eid holidays come after a long time of work and it is good to have a change. He stressed that Eid in Kuwait is better, due to the fact that everything is available here. Eid is a good opportunity to visit other family members.

Easy

Fawzi Mahmoud said that it is the first time he travels with his family during Eid. He intends to visit relatives in the West Bank because during this festive period it is easier to pass through the Jordan bridge located at the Jordanian-Israeli border.

Another family travelling to Syria to visit their sick mother

left their children in Kuwait.

On the other hand, officials at Kuwait International Airport said all airport employees had to report on duty to face the rush season during holidays. They added that a total of 12,000 travellers departed from Kuwait during the holidays.

They said that extra routes were operated on Cairo and Dubai sectors.

Stress

A large number of relatives and friends who accompanied travellers to see them off were prevented from entering the airport premises to prevent confusion and to ease up pressure on

security personnel.

Controller of Kuwait airport Khaled Al Shati urged travellers to co-operate with employees specially in reservations and being present in good time before departure.

Jamal Khalifa, one of the shift officials at the airport said employees and security men face higher stress from relatives who come to the airport to see travellers off. He stressed that the airport incurs big losses due to residents' negligence, and mistreatment of airport utilities.

He called upon travellers to co-operate with employees to facilitate their extending of services to the travelling public.



'Make-up'



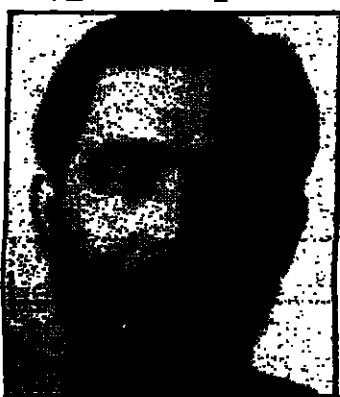
'Bathing,' oil on canvas.

A reflective glimpse of life in Bangladesh

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

AS a child, Munirul Islam sat on the banks of a river near his village and absorbed the humdrum of life as it passed by: farmers ploughing the field, boatmen plying the river and children playing in the field. In those formative years, he was particularly struck by the harshness of nature that surrounded his village. He often wondered why the powerful landlord oppressed the landless and often took away the harvest, leaving the hard working peasants and their families to starve.

"I wanted to portray the hopelessness of their situation; talk about their problems. At the same time, I wanted to show that my people live in a hopeless situation but are not without hope," said Islam, a Bangladeshi artist who has taken part in several exhibitions around the world. Islam's paintings go on show at the Kuwait National Museum on May 12. The exhibition, organised by the Bangladesh Association in co-operation with the museum and the Bangladesh embassy, is the first by any Bangladeshi artist in the Gulf.



Munirul Islam: reflections

Coupled with some hope, Islam, the artist, perhaps with-draws to brood over an inex- plicable sadness that hangs over his paintings, like the deep pain in his eyes. He captures Ban- gladesh with love, portraying sensitively his vision of a coun- try. For Islam art is an extension of his search for equality between the residents of urban and rural areas.

"So much is done to develop the urban areas, but when a catastrophe strikes my country, the peasants — farmers and poor villagers — suffer untold mis- ery," he says. And, then, as an

afterthought, he asks: "Why?"

Even in the foreboding mists of suffering, one can find a faint glimmer of hope; a belief that things might improve as Islam captures the details of everyday life of people he grew up with.

The son of a farmer, he has a fondness for the earth and nature. Natural disasters form the springboard of ideas for his surrealistic paintings. "A Sub- merged Village" is an artist's conception of pain, anguish and despair suffered by Bangladeshis during a natural calamity, which occurs frequently. "Floods" show a chain reaction of total destruction with a gross pain the only reminder of what may once have been a happy individual. "Imagination" shows a lone person crushed by the heavy burden of the humdrum of life, perhaps enduring or journeying through it.

When Islam is not reflecting, he looks around him to find beauty in everything common- place, like women picking water lilies or women bathing in the river.

Islam made a concerted effort to brush up his talent and took a master's degree in fine arts from

the Institute of Fine Arts of the Dhaka University.

He began his career as a realist painter, capturing what he saw, never groping for the hidden nuances that he now unabashedly incorporates in his work. Today, he dabbles in cubist art, relying heavily on lines to delineate forms and ideas. Figurative symbols are employed heavily to make a point.

"I'm still experimenting; my work is yet to evolve and develop," says Islam. For the moment, he is content with his style and colours. Islam's favourite shade is blue. "Blues? Don't they denote melancholy?" he asks. Though he uses different shades of blue profusely, he blends in whites, yellows and pinks — the colours of hope, as he calls them.

And through colours and lines, and symbolic figures, Islam "unveils Bangladesh's life," including landscapes.

Forty-five paintings by Islam will be shown at the exhibition which will be open to the public from May 12 to 27, between 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 7.30 pm, at the National Museum, Arabian Gulf St.

Diversity of India to be displayed

By Mahmoud Mursi

A REPLICA of the Taj Mahal will welcome visitors to the two-day Indian Day, due to be held on Thursday and Friday.

More than 750 Indians, representing 12 associations, are preparing for the India Day, which will be held at the Bneid Al Qar Sea Club.

Indian Counsellor R.S. Mak- hija will inaugurate the festival in the presence of a large number of diplomats and senior Kuwaiti officials.

A replica of the Taj Mahal is expected to be one of the major draws at the festival.

Abdul Hadi Al Yaqoub, one of the organisers, told a news conference yesterday that the Indian Day festival is an extension of the "historical and strong commercial and friendly relations between India and Kuwait."

The diversity of India will be reflected in the activities such as dances, folklore, music, han-



A replica of the Taj Mahal at Bneid Al Qar Sea Club.

dicrafts and food. Costumes and food from different regions like Kerala, Rajasthan, UP, Kar- nataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Bengal, Assam, Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra and a host of other Indian states will be

on display. The festival will be open on Thursday: from 5 pm onwards and on Friday between 10 am and 10 pm. The entrance fee is KD1 per person and KD2 for families.

47 Iranian infiltrators sentenced

THE criminal court sentenced 47 Iranian infiltrators to various jail sentences. The court was told that patrols of the Coast Guard captured 47 Iranians who attempted to infiltrate into Kuwait by boat in the Salwa area.

The court sentenced the boat captain to six months and seized his boat, sentenced three to three months each and sentenced the rest to one month each. All are to be deported from Kuwait after they complete the sentence.

Cash

The infiltrators confessed to the court that they paid the cap- tain a large amount of cash to smuggle them into Kuwait. The captain was found to have been previously sentenced to two months in jail for a similar offence.

Jeweller fined

AN owner of a jewellery shop was fined a sum of KD300 by Kuwait's Court of Misdemean- our on the charge of displaying jewellery which did not tally with the standard specifications. The court was told by one of the Consumers Protection Department's inspector that the defendant had displayed in his shop some unstamped gold jewellery, clarifying that he pur- chased a piece of gold from the defendant who claimed that it was 21 carat but when he tested it he found that it was of a lesser carat than claimed by the defen- dant.

220,000 begin exams today

Cheating guarantees success: students

ABDUL Rahman Al Khudari, undersecretary at the Ministry of Education, announced that 220,000 students from the inter- mediate and secondary stages of Arab and public private schools will begin their final examina- tions today.

The higher secondary class for all Arab schools numbering around 20,000 students will appear for their secondary examinations on May 23, Khudari added.

"The ministry will take strict measures against any student found violating the rules," the official said.

The timing of the examina- tions this year which comes directly after the Eid Al Fitr holidays will not be repeated in the coming years.

On the eve of the exams students at different educational stages were preparing to succeed either by engaging in serious study or by resorting to a number of cheating methods such as crib sheets.

"We do not care about the methods used — but our main objective is to achieve success and complete a long and tiring educational stage," one of the students said.

In interviews with a local daily a large section of students stressed that cheating is the only way to pass examinations. They added: "Threats will not prevent us from cheating."

Students from the science branch claimed that students at the arts branches rely more on cheating in order to accomplish higher grades.

Revision

Samir A., a student, said that he totally depends on crib sheets during examinations. He added that he rarely does revision because he spends most of his

time with friends. However, he added that he wished he did not have to depend on cheating due to the obstacles he may be sub- jected to in the future. He also expressed preference towards taking exams at his school in- stead of other examination centres because he is acquainted with most of the teachers. Not being acquainted with teachers, makes it harder to cheat, he added.

Headed that he spends a long time preparing crib sheets and usually along with friends during the evenings. "Each of my friends and I will summarise a subject and collect the most important information in order to save time," he explained.

The information is then copied onto normal size paper and taken to one of the studios for reduction. Reduction of a crib sheet cost 350 fils at all studios.

Crib sheets cost a lot of money and great effort, but I am willing to pay any price to achieve high grades, he added.

Punishment

B. Al Khalidi said that he does not depend on crib sheets during examinations, but he might be forced sometimes to cheat from the answers of a student sitting next to him.

"I am afraid to use crib sheets because they may lead to punish- ment if I am caught by the exam supervisor," he said. He pointed out that students caught cheating are usually ejected from the examination.

Khalidi added that he is in the art section and that there are many subjects that need a great deal of memorisation.

He said that students in the arts section use more crib sheets than students in the science section of the general secondary stage. Curricula taught at the

science section requires under- standing, as opposed to the art section curricula which requires memorisation. Students at the arts section cannot memorise the entire contents of curricula, the reason they sometimes rely on crib sheets.

He explained that the high tur- novel in the use of crib sheets is the result of supervisory negligence at examinations centres due to the fact that the supervisors are acquainted with some of the students' parents or with students themselves.

Negligence

Saud Ali said that 90 per cent of students depend on crib sheets during examinations because of the school administrations' negligence. He pointed out that most school administrations allow cheating so students get high grades, thus putting the school ahead of other schools.

Saud adds that he prefers studying to cheating at examina- tions to avoid putting himself into an awkward position in front of the exam supervisors. He said that he tries to spend most of his time studying despite the harsh circumstances he passed through such as fasting during the holy month of Ramadan and celebrating the Eid holidays.

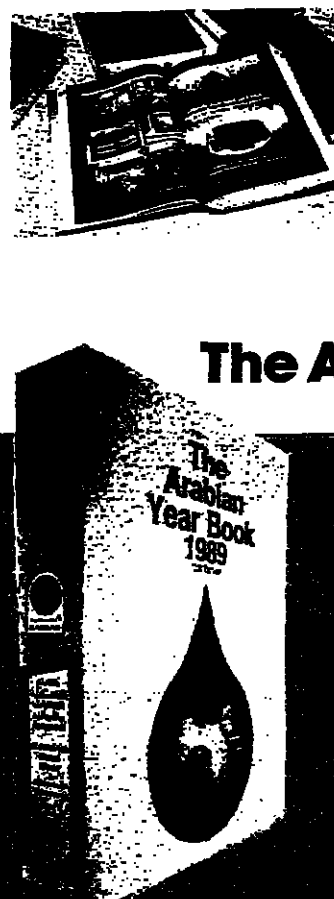

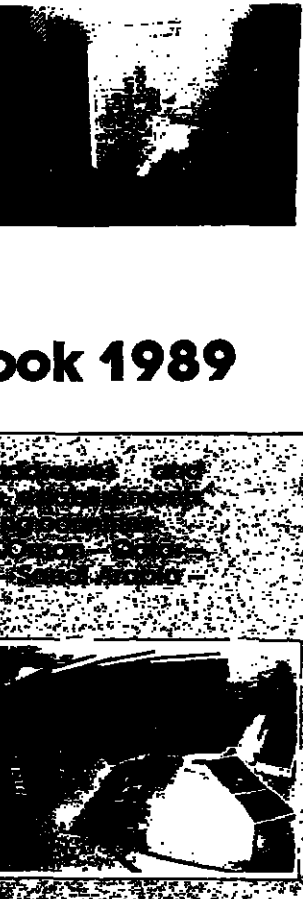
He said that cheating incidents occur more at boys schools than girls schools. Pointing out that male students are more enterpr- ising at cheating than females especially in the arts section.

He added that cheating occurs more in remote areas such as Fahaheel and Jahra.

M. Al Hajri said that preven- tive measures taken by the Education Ministry to prevent cheating amongst students have not reduced the amount of cheat- ing.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

HUMILITY is the solid foundation of all the virtues —
Confucius, Chinese philosopher (551 BC-479 BC)

Political oblivion for Janos Kadar

JANOS Kadar, consigned to political oblivion on Monday, was the architect of modern Hungary and ran the country for almost 32 years. He won genuine popularity for giving Hungarians the most liberal and open society in the Eastern bloc. But his conservative streak showed through and his inability to meet calls for more reform led to his eclipse.

In May 1988 he was replaced as communist party general secretary by Karoly Grosz, a forceful personality in the mould of Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev.

Shunted out of the Politburo and into a new honorary post of party president, Kadar, 76, went into what officials said was an irreversible mental and physical decline.

On Monday night the party stripped him of his ceremonial post and dropped from its policy-making central committee.

In his later years, Kadar was seen by some Hungarian sources as an obstacle to Grosz.

Grosz launched a ruthless attack on Kadar on May 1, referring to 'previous leaders' who had inflicted 'unimaginable moral, political and material damage' on Hungary.

More generous judgements gave him credit for saving as much freedom for Hungary as possible after the 1956 uprising, crushed by Soviet troops after prime minister Imre Nagy, backed by Kadar, withdrew it from the Warsaw pact.

Kadar initially supported the rebellion but switched sides to be installed as leader of a new party and government with Soviet backing.

At first he acted harshly in punishing the uprising's leaders with death and prison.

But as stability gradually returned and living standards rose, gradual and grudging respect turned into admiration.

Kadar was cautious not to rush through change at a pace that would worry Moscow, rock other communist governments or undermine his party's supremacy at home.

He allowed political discussion in the media and in public, gave a small degree of independence to parliament and encouraged official state-controlled trade unions to be more positive in defending workers' interests.

He raised living standards and damped down a feud between the communist state and Roman Catholic church.

The economy underwent partial modernisation, but went into a nosedive in the 1980s as Kadar used big Western loans to prop up ageing industries rather than for restructuring. By early 1989, net debt was above \$11 billion dollars, the highest per capita in Eastern Europe.

Culturally, Hungary under Kadar was also comparatively liberal. But he drew limits which dissenters inside and outside the party were not allowed to overstep.

Kadar was born illegitimate on May 26, 1912.

He joined the communist party at 20 and when Hungary entered World War Two in 1941 on Germany's side he was active in the resistance movement, suffering arrest and torture at the hands of the Gestapo before escaping.

His first job in Soviet liberated Hungary was to help organise a new 'democratic' police force. In 1948 he was elected to the politburo, becoming interior minister later that year.

The purges that swept East Europe's communist leaderships after Yugoslav president Tito broke with the Kremlin in 1948 ultimately engulfed Kadar. He was arrested and jailed as a potential 'traitor' in 1951.

Released and rehabilitated in 1954, Kadar was re-elected to the politburo two years later. He became party leader on the third day of the 1956 uprising.

At the height of the revolt he vanished from Budapest. Two days later, as Soviet tanks pounded the capital, he proclaimed a new Moscow-backed government.

Kadar stepped down as prime minister in January 1958 but continued as chief of the Soviet-backed communist party.

PRESS REVIEW

PLO embarrassed

EXTRACTS from some British editorials on the demand by Iran's parliament speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani for the deaths of five Westerners for every Palestinian killed by Israel:

"It has embarrassed the Palestine Liberation Organization which has swiftly told the Iranians to mind their own business... Iran is in the grip of an irrational and fanatical regime whose standards of behaviour fall well below those of the civilized world. Although Iran is already virtually isolated internationally, and its religious leaders will not easily respond to normal pressures, this should not be used as an argument against further action."

The Independent

"There should be a complete break in relations between all Western countries and Iran until that sad and much-abused country is ready to rejoin the civilized world. It is usually preferable to maintain contacts with unsatisfactory regimes in the hope of influencing their behaviour. Britain has the lives of prisoners in Tehran and hostages in Lebanon to consider. But there are circumstances in which dialogue of any kind becomes useless and impossible. For the time being Iran is beyond the pale and it is for the European (Economic) Community, and the civilized world generally, to act in full concert to ensure her moral and diplomatic isolation."

The Daily Telegraph

"The edict... passes a new milestone in Iran's revolutionary trudge across the boundaries of depravity... as the tensions of the cold war are loosened, so the Third World's clutch of 'rogue states' which abet terrorism and fuel fanaticism may prove to be an ever-greater threat to world peace... the world community should consider a diplomatic, commercial and airline boycott of Iran until such time as the country reverts to the norms of acceptable international behaviour."

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1559 — Selim and Bayazid, sons of Sultan Suleiman I of Turkey, fight for future succession at Konia in Asia Minor. The defeated Bayazid and his supporters flee to Persia, where Bayazid is slain.
- 1796 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte defeats Austrians at Lodi in Italy campaign.
- 1857 — Sepoys revolt at Meerut, starting Indian mutiny against British rule.
- 1871 — Treaty of Frankfurt ends Franco-Prussian war, France cedes Alsace-Lorraine to Germany.
- 1875 — Religious orders are abolished in Russia.
- 1933 — Paraguay declares war on Bolivia.
- 1940 — Britain's Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain resigns in World War II, and Winston Churchill forms government; Germany invades Holland, Luxembourg and Belgium.
- 1957 — Soviets appeal to United States and Britain to halt nuclear tests.
- 1967 — US jet planes bomb power plants in North Vietnam's post of Haiphong for first time in Vietnam war.
- 1971 — Former Nazi Rudolf Hess finishes 30 years imprisonment, and Soviets insist he serve full life sentence in Berlin's Spandau prison.
- 1972 — South Vietnam's President Nguyen van Thieu declares state of martial law.
- 1976 — Israel announces plans to establish numerous additional settlements in occupied Arab territory.
- 1987 — Beirut International Airport reopens after 99-day shutdown.
- 1988 — United States vetoes UN Security Council resolution condemning Israel's "invasion" of southern Lebanon.

Lessons in liberalisation: the Chinese way

By Jim Abrams

FOR Mikhail Gorbachev, China's chaotic blend of plenty and want, success and failure is a vision of what may await the Soviet Union as it embarks on economic and social reform.

He arrives on May 15 on a mission to normalize relations between the two communist giants after 30 years of hostility. One thing he will take home is a lesson in the difficulties of easing a communist state's grip on the economy.

Senior Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping began market-oriented reforms 10 years ago, long before Gorbachev and 'perestroika' came along.

Gross national product has tripled. Foreign trade has gone from \$40 billion in 1980 to \$100 billion last year.

Per capita income still is equivalent to only about \$200 a year, but has more than tripled in the decade. Families that once scrimped to buy a bicycle now own refrigerators, colour televisions and stereos.

The early euphoria is over, however, and the corrosive effects of inflation and corruption threaten the future of liberalization. Annual inflation is more than 30 per cent in a nation that for decades banned price increases. Profiteering is rampant.

Democratic reforms are another story. Gorbachev has held multiple-candidate elections and opened up the press with his glasnost policy, but Deng believes intellectual freedom should be doled out as economic reforms progress.

Huge student demonstrations in past weeks illustrated the profound dissatisfaction of educated Chinese with their government.

Deng permitted the democracy wall movement of 1978-79, in which posters for democracy were displayed, while it served his political purposes. Then he crushed it and threw the leaders in jail.

The official press is encouraged to be a watchdog, but is not permitted to criticize Communist Party leaders or the system.

Gorbachev will be shown the dazzling successes of "gaige" and "kaifang," China's words for reform and opening to the outside world.

Reform has produced 23 million entrepreneurs, many operating from bicycles or roadside stands, who did \$35 billion worth of business last year.

Vendors and family farmers freed from now-defunct communes have combined to keep free markets stocked with fruit, vegetables and meat—a dream to Soviet citizens who stand in line for short supplies.

Gorbachev, just beginning to seek investment from the West, will find 16,000 joint ventures in China with a total commitment of \$25 billion.

Many are small textile or appliance factories that have created instant boomtowns in southern China near Hong Kong, the capitalist enclave.

China also has glistening Sheraton and Hilton hotels, restaurants ranging from Kentucky Fried Chicken to Maxim's, and Shanghai factories producing Volkswagen Autos and McDonnell Douglas passenger planes.

Four special economic zones have nearly a free hand in seeking foreign investment and are in cut-throat competition, offering preferential treatment to foreign companies.

Many of the bold experiments have been slowed by concern for inflation, but not before they transformed concepts of socialist ownership and financing.

About 6,000 enterprises have issued shares, mostly to employees. Many economists see shareholding as the best way for money-losing state factories



A Chinese workman removes scaffolding from the portrait of Colonel Sanders, founder of the US-based Kentucky Fried Chicken fast-food chain. (Reuter wirephoto)

to spur worker initiative and raise capital.

Primitive stock markets have sprung up in several large cities. A nationwide stock exchange is being debated.

Exchange markets for treasury bonds operate in 61 cities. Real estate markets are emerging as the government encourages private housing and safe off-land to developers.

Chinese peasants, for millennia harnessed to their

plows, have a new mobility.

Eighty million, one-tenth of the rural population, have found jobs in the small industries that have provided much of the economic growth. Millions more have been drawn to cities by the booming construction and service industries.

Old habits of state interference and the "iron rice bowl" of guaranteed employment refuse to die, but factory owners have the right to hire and fire work-

ers. A bankruptcy law permits state factories to be closed for losing money, although they seldom are. Many workers have contracts with their employers and, at least in theory, can quit if something better turns up when the contract is fulfilled.

The benefits of economic reforms have been great, but the bills are coming due, and Chinese leaders flinch at their size.

According to official figures, the living standards of one-third of urban residents declined last year because of rising prices.

A nationwide mania for building and the state's loss of control over credit have overheated the economy. Excessive growth has caused an energy crunch and shortages of raw materials, which encourage profiteering.

Small farmers, once heroes, are being blamed for four successive poor grain harvests because they would rather grow cash crops for the free markets than cheap grain for the state.

Last month, the government responded to the bad news with an austerity program that cut off investment credit, cancelled thousands of building projects and returned central control to wide areas of prices, finance and foreign trade.

It also has put a moratorium on further reforms, the end to price controls deemed essential to achieving balance between supply and demand.

Unemployment, theoretically non-existent in a socialist state, has become reality. The government gives the rate as 2 per cent, but does not count millions of people laid off by the closures of rural enterprises whose credit or supplies dried up.

Railway stations were clogged last winter with peasants trying to reach cities for construction jobs, most of which already had been eliminated.

Leaders have acknowledged their errors and say the reforms will continue when the current mess is cleared up.

Deng, the 84-year-old father of the reforms, told the president of Togo recently: "If there had been enough vigilance... three or four years ago, things would be much better today."

Deeply disturbing to the Chinese are social problems that did not exist when everyone read from the same little Red Book and lived in the same egalitarian poverty.

Widening income gaps contributed to a 13-per cent increase in crime last year. The number of larceny cases rose 64 per cent.

Elders are horrified by the materialism of the young and their more casual attitudes toward sex and pornography. Cases of venereal disease rose in 1988, to 56,000.

Educated Chinese, long victimized by Mao Tse-tung's anti-intellectual policies, are angered by a situation in which doctors and professors are paid the equivalent of \$50 a month while illiterate street peddlers earn \$1,000.

Thousands want to go abroad for study or work, and many will not return.

Premier Li Peng, the cautious technocrat who engineered the current economic slowdown, has led the appeal for a return to the old values of sacrifice and thrift.

"People should be ideologically prepared to live a hard life for a few years," he said.

Few are. Even the Communist Party is plagued by corruption as people use official powers to obtain deer and roe deer antlers and consumer goods.

One report from Sichuan said 100 tons of government fertilizer for grain farmers was sold 26 times before it actually got to them. (AP)

Peace talks progress, hard bargaining ahead

Differences still split warring factions in Cambodia

By Kenneth L. Whiting

THE latest round of Cambodian peace talks have ended in a rosy glow of optimism tinged with the feeling that the really hard bargaining has yet to begin.

The encouraging results in Jakarta, the unprecedented dialogue recently among all sides, and the general warming of ties among the United States, China and the Soviet Union have created a momentum toward peace. But deep differences still separate the four warring factions in Cambodia.

On one hand, said Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, "clear progress has been made." On the other, he said, "there is still a basic divergence of views."

In the jargon of the negotiators, the quest for peace in the 10-year jungle war is divided into "external" and "internal" factors. External refers to the withdrawal of Vietnam's occupation troops and the halt of outside aid to the warring factions. Internal is the thorny problem of how power is to be shared by erstwhile enemies.

The external aspect is falling into place. Vietnam has promised to withdraw the last of its soldiers by the end of September, regardless of a political settlement. The warring factions have agreed to let observers monitor the withdrawal under a so-called international control mechanism (ICM). An international conference in Paris on July 24-25 is supposed to decide on which nations will comprise the ICM.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev confers with Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping in Beijing May 15-18 in the first Sino-Soviet summit in 30 years. The Cambodian question, a major obstacle in normalizing relations between the two, is expected to be high on their agenda.

Moscow has supported Vietnam and its protégé government in Phnom Penh. Beijing has backed the Khmer Rouge faction of the three-party guerrilla resistance coalition.

Some officials fear progress on the external side could be so swift that the Soviet Union and China might rush toward agreement which, as with Afghanistan, would remove their support but leave the internal situation unsettled and ripe for more civil war.

Persistent but unconfirmed reports say the Soviet leaders have been



Prince Norodom Sihanouk

pressuring Vietnam for a speedy withdrawal because they want better relations with China and non-communist Southeast Asian nations and an end to costly foreign military involvements.

The moves toward settlement after years of deadlock brought together for the first time Vietnam, Laos and the Phnom Penh government, with the three-member resistance coalition and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. ASEAN is made up of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei.

The first meeting did not produce an accord but was rated a modest success because the participants agreed to continue negotiations and meet again. The second session in Jakarta in February — overshadowed by the upcoming Sino-Soviet summit — ended inconclusively as the warring factions simply restated earlier positions.

This week, coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, 67, said he was prepared to return as head of state if, among other things, the Vietnamese pullout was independently confirmed and if the constitution rewritten to his satisfaction.

Diplomatic observers said the mercurial Sihanouk seemed ready to return to Phnom Penh with or without the Khmer Rouge, the strongest rebel group militarily whose bloody three-year rule Vietnam toppled in 1978.

While not directly represented at Jakarta, the Khmer Rouge were very much under discussion, most of it condemnatory. Sihanouk dismissed them as only interested in continuing the war and he quoted Cambodian Premier Hun Sen as saying let them "stay in the jungle."

Hun Sen and the others insist that Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot and those of the original "genocidal clique" be barred from any future government.

The resistance hopes to reach comprehensive political settlement with Hun Sen before withdrawal of the Vietnamese forces. Without an agreement, there is concern the Khmer Rouge might grab power with their superior military force.

The concern prevails even though the Vietnamese pullout promise is not unconditional. The joint declaration last month by Hanoi, Phnom Penh and Vientiane said that if, after the withdrawal, foreign countries continued to provide military aid to the guerrillas, "especially the Pol Pot clique," the Cambodian government reserved their right to call for outside assistance.

Such help could be provided under the terms of a treaty between Hanoi and Phnom Penh concluded in February 1979, a month after the Vietnamese ousted Pol Pot's regime.

The United States, which provides the guerrillas of Sihanouk and former Premier Son Sann with diplomatic support and non-lethal aid, showed its concern by saying it might give military aid to the two non-communist factions.

Even Beijing finally has joined the international community in publicly declaring its opposition to a return to power of its main guerrilla ally. China's once-unequivocal backing for the Khmer Rouge had stymied peace efforts for years. (AP)

Argentine voters crying out for Evita's party

Peronists expected to win election

By Richard Jarvis

ARGENTINA'S Peronists expect to win next Sunday's general elections and return in triumph to the Casa Rosada, the pink government house from which they were expelled by a military coup 13 years ago.

Party faithful consider the Casa Rosada — and the balcony from which Juan Domingo Peron stirred his people with powerful rhetoric — a Peronist symbol and rightfully theirs.

Their confidence about the elections for president and half of congress is backed by the latest polls.

Justicialist (Peronist) Party candidate Carlos Menem, the flamboyant governor of the impoverished northwestern province of La Rioja, was given a six-point lead over ruling Radical Party rival Eduardo Angeloz by a survey published in Sunday's La Nacion newspaper. Other recent polls gave a similar margin.

If neither candidate wins a clear majority of the expected 20 million votes,

the next president should be chosen by an electoral college by August and be sworn in on December 10.

Centre-right presidential candidate Alvaro Alsogaray could become a leading power-broker in the electoral college if the popular vote does not produce an outright winner, political experts said.

They said Angeloz's chances had been dashed by his party's disastrous handling of the economy.

Spiralling inflation, a soaring public deficit, rising unemployment, dwindling foreign currency reserves and a crippling foreign debt have put the country in at least as bad a situation as in March 1976, when the armed forces ousted Peron's widow, Maria Estela Peron.

An 80 per cent plunge in the value of the austral currency so far this year would be reflected in a loss of Radical votes.

"Each time the dollar rises, Angeloz loses two points" in the popularity ratings, centre-right parliamentary candidate Maria Julia Alsogaray said recent-

ly.

On top of the economic debacle, President Raul Alfonsín's administration, which took over from the military government in December 1983, has recently faced an army uprising, renewed left-wing guerrilla activity, a drought that destroyed a quarter of the current harvest, and a prolonged energy crisis.

A Western diplomat said it was a tribute to Alfonsín that, despite these problems, this would be the first time in 61 years that a democratically elected president had handed power to another. Argentina has experienced six military coups since 1943.

"Before, the option of a coup was always there. Now the country seems to have put this option aside — at least for the time being," one Western diplomat said.

But the threat of social upheaval or military intervention still existed, he said, even if not in the immediate future.

"At present there is a calm before the elections, but if something isn't done soon

to sort out the economy, people might run out of patience," the diplomat added.

Menem has promised to pull the country out of recession through a "productive revolution" based on big wage rises and easy credit terms to stimulate output and consumption.

Angeloz, a backhanded orator seen by many as a better administrator than politician, has pledged immediate, severe cuts in the public sector, privatisation of most state companies, and production and export incentives for farmers and industry.

Both electoral campaigns have concentrated on discrediting rivals than stressing programmes for reform.

While the Menem camp has made capital of the radicals' catastrophic economic performance, Angeloz and his supporters have stressed Menem's frequent contradictory statements, political gaffes, and the disastrous performance of previous Peronist administrations whose nationalistic programmes frightened

away foreign investors and plunged the country into isolationism.

Trying to allay the fears of foreign bankers, Menem has promised to honour Argentina's \$60 billion foreign debt but insists creditors should agree to easier payment terms.

The country has effectively suspended debt service payments, and sources of fresh foreign funds have dried up. Negotiations with foreign bankers are set to resume after the election.

Alfonsín has said he would allow his elected successor to participate in foreign debt negotiations prior to the December 10 handover of power.

But political sources said that, given a Peronist victory, Menem would not be content with this.

With the mandate of the people in his pocket, he and his trade union backers would almost certainly insist on immediate participation in all aspects of government despite Alfonsín's public pledge to serve out his full six-year term.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Egypt likely to be readmitted to OAPEC

KUWAIT, May 9, (Reuters): Egypt will probably be readmitted to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) on Saturday, an official of the organisation said today.

"Admission is almost certain" to be approved at a meeting of OAPEC oil ministers in Kuwait, OAPEC official Usamah Jamali told Reuters.

Egypt was suspended from OAPEC, the Arab League and other pan-Arab organisations in 1979 for signing a peace treaty with Israel.

An Arab League summit in Morocco on May 23 is expected to complete Egypt's rehabilitation in the Arab world, diplomats say.

Readmission

The official said Egypt's readmission to the nine-member OAPEC required approval from two of founding members Libya, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, plus three-quarters of the general membership.

He said Iraq, backed by Egypt during its war with Iran which halted with a ceasefire in August, would propose Cairo's readmission at Saturday's meeting.

OAPEC, which also includes Algeria, Bahrain, Qatar, Syria and the United Arab Emirates, was formed in 1968 to promote joint energy projects.

Relations

Since 1987 Cairo has rejoined a number of pan-Arab organisations, including the Arab Satellite Communication Organisation last month.

Libya, Syria and Lebanon are the only Arab states that have not restored

diplomatic relations with Cairo.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Abdel Hadi Kandil said today that Egypt would maintain production at the current level of 900,000 BPD.

In remarks published by the Egyptian newspaper, "Al-Ahram", the minister said that Egypt had started to exploit oil finds at the rate of 82,600 BPD.

He said his ministry had finalised a plan to make efforts to increase the country's oil reserves in order to meet future demand.

Market ponders G-7 policy

Dollar firm, gold eases

LONDON, May 9, (Agencies): The dollar shrugged off fresh central bank intervention today to climb higher on foreign exchanges, prompting renewed market speculation about the currency of major industrial nations.

It opened in London at 1.9098 West German marks and 135.01 Japanese yen after closing at eight-month highs of 1.9072 and 134.82 yesterday. In Frankfurt, it traded around 1.91 marks after opening at its highest level since last August 22.

Repeated intervention by the Bank of England during Asia's trading period and by the Federal Reserve in New York yesterday failed to dampen investor enthusiasm.

The Bank of England twice sold dollars for pounds sterling, but the dollar kept rising to edge past 1.91 marks. By 0930 GMT no other European central bank had intervened.

Confused

Dealers were confused yesterday when the US currency successfully hurdled the 1.90 mark barrier they believed the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy — had secretly determined to be the dollar's upper limit.

So far this month Western European central banks and their US equivalent, the Fed, have intervened in concert on the dollar back from the 1.90 mark level, but only the Fed intervened yesterday.

Funds kept pouring into the dollar because of relatively high US interest rates and the lure of dollar-denominated investments such as the \$30 billion of US government securities under auction in Washington this week.

"There is just nothing to support the mark at the moment. US interest rates are still a lot higher than German rates and there is no reason to buy marks," said one Frankfurt trader.

"Even if the Bundesbank (West German central bank) steps in, it will be difficult to change the positive sentiment from the dollar," a Japanese dealer in London said.

Other dollar rates at midmorning, compared with late yesterday:

- 2.0000 West German marks, up from 1.8975
- 1.7010 Swiss francs, up from 1.6945
- 6.4408 French francs, up from 6.4025
- 2.1538 Dutch guilders, up from 2.1400
- 1.392.75 Italian lire, up from 1.385.00
- 1.1865 Canadian dollars, up from 1.1850

Gold opened in London at a bid price of \$376.20 a troy ounce, down from \$377.50 bid late today. At midmorning today, the city's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of \$376.00.

In Zurich, the bid price was \$376.00, down from \$377.75 bid late today.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold fell 1.34 to close at a bid \$377.07.

Silver was quoted in London at a bid price of \$5.59 a troy ounce, down from today's \$5.64.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange's key index fell today after climbing for six consecutive trading days, and the US dollar hit an eight-month high against the Japanese yen despite central bank intervention, market sources said.

The 225-issue Nikkei stock average lost 103.37 points, or 0.30 per cent, closing at 34,031.87. The index had gained

180.25 points to a 34,135.24 point record closing yesterday.

A Nomura Securities dealer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the index's fall today resulted mainly from profit-taking following continuous gains since April 26.

"Uncertainties over the foreign exchange rate also discouraged Japanese investors' buying interest," he added.

Oil prices were steady in Tokyo after substantial drops on overseas markets yesterday. Traders attributed the falls to concern about rising production from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Britain's key Brent blend oil was quoted at around \$17.65 a barrel, barely changed from its closing level in New York yesterday.

Share prices in London were higher at midday today as a shortage of stock, a lack of sellers and a small amount of buying interest combined to push up prices.

Dealers said volume was still modest, with little participation from institutions.

Some traders said the buying interest came from European investors who are keen to pick up British stocks, which they perceive as undervalued.

In addition, dealers said selected stocks were attracting the market's attention. "It's very much a market of special situations," one trader said.

At about 12.30 pm (1130 GMT), the Financial Times stock exchange 100-share index was 9.3 points, or 0.4 per cent, stronger at 2,128.9. It was off its midmorning best level of 2,132.7 but higher than the minimum of 2,124.3 at the opening.

Volume came to 295.1 million shares by midday, compared with 254.5 million shares at the same time yesterday.

Saudis stick to OPEC quota

RIYADH, May 9, (OPECNA): Saudi Arabian Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham M. Nazer has said that reports of the kingdom over-producing by French newspaper La Figaro and some news agencies were "not true and had no basis."

In an official statement, the minister stressed that Saudi Arabia's oil sales totalled 4.50 million BPD in April, which is exactly the country's OPEC assigned quota.

"The OPEC secretariat knows that Saudi Arabia abides by its quota and the documented numbers and information reaches the secretariat continuously. Those who wanted to know the truth should have contacted OPEC to make sure," Nazer said.

Production

He reiterated Saudi Arabia's adherence to its set production quota and pointed out that the kingdom's call for quota adherence by other OPEC member countries was not for propaganda purposes.

The kingdom has repeatedly expressed its abidance to its production quota because it respects its word and does not over-produce.

Kuwait team for Egypt to promote economic ties

KUWAIT, May 9, (KUNA): Kuwait's Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi is due to pay an official three-day visit to Egypt on Sunday, in response to an invitation by Egyptian Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr Youssef Mustafa.

The Kuwaiti minister, during his stay in the Egyptian capital, will sign an accord on protection and encouragement of investment. He will also discuss ways to promote economic co-operation between Kuwait and Egypt.

The accord defines investment and related activities and details privileges and incentives offered as well as guarantees against nationalisation or expropriation.

The draft accord sets up a joint committee from both sides to clear any disputes or difficulties facing implementation of the agreement.

Accord

Kuwait has already presented a substitute draft of the existing accord on the flow of capital and investment concluded between the two countries in 1966.

The present draft was initiated in 1988.

The Kuwaiti delegation will include deputy general manager of Kuwait Investment Authority, Badr Al Rashid, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Egypt Abdul Razzak Al Kandari and director of economic organisations at the Finance Ministry Khalid Al Rubian, in addition to director of the undersecretary's office Mohammed Al Murshid.

Aid to help overcome financial problems

Arabs ready to help Jordan

AMMAN, Jordan, May 9, (AP): Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker said today that Arab oil states had expressed willingness to help Jordan overcome its financial problems.

But the prime minister's statement to the official Jordan news agency did not mention any specific promises of aid, which the country is counting on to help meet a budget deficit and debt burden.

Bin Shaker noted that Hussein met with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Abdullah of Kuwait last month following riots over price rises and economic hardships that shook the country last month.

He said the talks brought "a response from our brethren (of) their readiness to help Jordan support itself at this critical stage."

Hussein has blamed Jordan's financial problems on the failure of wealthier Arab states to fully pay the \$12.5 billion they promised to give Jordan over the past decade.

Commitment

Only Saudi Arabia met its entire commitment of about \$360 million a year.

Despite persistent shortfalls in the promised aid, Jordan continued to borrow and built up a debt of some \$6 billion, which is now trying to reschedule.

The country has devalued its currency by 40 per cent over the past year, restricted imports and cut government spending.

But economists say Jordan still needs at least \$200 million in Arab aid in order to balance its budget.

Bin Shaker also said his government was working on plans to hold the country's first general parliamentary elections in 22 years, to reorganise the administration and to re-examine the economic decisions that led to the riots last month.

Hussein called for such steps in a directive to Bin Shaker when he named him prime minister on April 27 to replace Zaid Rifai, who resigned because of the unrest.

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Polish copper miners end strike over pay

WARSAW, May 9, (Reuters): Representatives of up to 20,000 Polish copper miners said today they were ending a four-day strike after reaching a pay agreement with management.

"We are going back to work as soon as the management signs an agreement which the crews have already agreed to," striker Karol Gorny said by telephone from the southwestern Rudna mine.

Strikers said they had halted all copper extraction in Poland — one of the world's biggest producers — to press demands for a big pay rise.

Gorny said management had agreed to a 50 per cent rise in the basic monthly wage of about 80,000 zlotys (\$113) to about 120,000 zlotys (\$170).

Rise

Managers were not immediately available for comment.

Management had rejected calls for a 50 per cent pay rise over the weekend and a senior government official dismissed the miners' claims yesterday.

The miners stopped work last Friday to press demands for the communist authorities to implement immediate pay rises under a deal agreed by the government and the Solidarity-led opposition during two months of talks on reforms earlier this year.

The strikers included members of the Solidarity free trade union, as well as the communist-led Opozycja unions.

Solidarity leaders have refused to comment publicly on the stoppages but have repeatedly urged workers not to strike to give the reforms a chance of success.

BBC TV and radio hit by 48-hour strike

LONDON, May 9, (Reuters): British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) journalists and technicians began a 48-hour pay strike today, severely disrupting radio and television programmes.

Most live broadcasts were cancelled as senior journalists, talk-show hosts and disc jockeys joined picket lines to demand 16 per cent rises.

The state-funded corporation has refused to increase an offer of seven per cent although annual inflation has reached 7.9 per cent and is expected to rise further.

BBC's main television new bulletins went out in shortened form and news readers said they would not take pay while colleagues were on strike.

During a 24-hour stoppage last month, the readers said they thought it wrong to stop the news on a public service channel.

BBC staff complain they earn considerably less than commercial television employees doing comparable jobs.

Stripped

The BBC said about 12,000 of its 28,000 staff around the country joined the strike and stressed that its pay offer was final.

Most of the BBC's revenue comes from a television licence fee paid by viewers.

Personnel director Roger Chase said the unions' claim would cost £45 million (\$75 million), "money which simply is not there."

US gives Egypt \$47m in aid

CAIRO, May 9, (Reuters): The United States signed an accord with Egypt today to provide \$47 million in grants for development projects, a US embassy statement said.

Roughly half the money would be spent on education, \$10 million would go on family planning, another \$10 million would be spent on health services and \$3 million would go to farm projects.

The aid is part of total annual US economic aid to Egypt of \$815 million. Egypt, which also gets \$1.3 billion a year in US military assistance, is the largest recipient of US aid after Israel.

Conference to study EEC 1992 unification

NICOSIA, May 9, (Reuters): Iran will hold a two-day seminar next week to study plans by the European Economic Community to form a single market by 1992, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported yesterday.

It quoted Abbas Maleki, head of the Foreign Ministry's Institute for Political and International Studies, as saying the Tehran conference will help define policy towards the EEC which accounts for 30 per cent of Iranian foreign trade.

Britain yesterday denounced the call to Palestinians, issued on Friday by parliamentarian Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, and said it was discussing a response with other members of the community.

Relations

Iran broke diplomatic relations with Britain in March over the Rushdie affair and recalled its ambassador from other community states.

Community members had earlier recalled their top envoys from Tehran in protest at the anti-Rushdie campaign.

In recent weeks Tehran has launched a barrage of criticism at West Germany, accusing Bonn of involvement in an alleged USA spy ring in Iran.

Meanwhile, Iran's Central Bank governor left for Romania yesterday for talks on boosting trade which stood at \$300 million last year, IRNA reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said Majid Qassemi would meet several Romanian cabinet ministers during his five-day visit. It quoted Qassemi as saying trade was below previously agreed levels and he would discuss the reasons.

Seoul predicts 8pc GNP growth

Seoul predicts 8pc GNP growth despite crisis fears

SEOUL, May 9, (Reuters): South Korea's top economic planner today brushed aside crisis fears and said Seoul could achieve a targeted eight per cent growth in 1989.

Deputy Premier Cho Soon took a cabinet meeting that strikes in the first four months of this year cost South Korea 2.63 trillion won (\$3.95 billion) in lost production.

"We estimate the disputes cut the economic growth rate (during the period) by 1.5 per cent," a government official quoted Cho as saying.

But domestic-related indicators show a general upturn and this year's economic target of eight per cent could be achieved," Cho added.

Cho's report to the cabinet followed last week's emergency meeting of economic officials, arranged hastily after a dramatic export slowdown prompted fears of an economic crisis.

Exports grew only 7.7 per cent to \$18.8 billion in the first quarter of this year, compared with a growth rate of 28.4 per cent for the whole of 1988.

Optimism

Government officials said Cho's optimism stemmed from a recent rise in domestic consumption as well as government confidence it can contain labour strife. Economists say labour relations will be a decisive factor for the future of the South Korean economy.

"Domestic demand for cars and electronics goods rose more than 40 per cent in the first four months of this year over the same period last year," one official said.

"If we have no more serious labour problems a real eight per cent growth in our country's gross national product (GNP) could be met without much difficulty," he added.

President Roh Tae-Woo, chairing the cabinet meeting, again rammed home the message that he would no longer tolerate illegal strikes. Roh last week threatened to take emergency measures if social turmoil continued.

"The time for tolerance and restraint is over," he said today.

Labour Ministry officials said the number of stoppages and disputes had slumped since the presidential threat.

Surplus

Deputy Premier Cho, who heads the Economic Planning Board, said the government scaled down its balance of payments surplus projection for this year from an original \$9.5 billion to \$8 billion. It also revised downward its 1989 export target by about \$2 billion to \$68 billion.

"If the surplus is reduced to around \$8 billion while achieving an eight per cent GNP growth, this could help South Korea considerably in its trade negotiations with Washington," said Kim Chung-Soo, a senior economist at the Korea Development Institute (KDI), a government think-tank.

South Korea, which fears US retaliation because of its large trade surplus, reported a \$14.2 billion balance of payments surplus and a 12.2 per cent GNP growth in 1988.

Minorco wins more time in battle for Cons Gold

LONDON, May 9, (Reuters): South African-backed Minorco and Resources Corp. (Minorco) won more time today to pursue its bitter takeover battle for British mining group Consolidated Gold Fields PLC.

The London-based watchdog takeover panel granted Minorco extra time to clear legal obstacles in the United States that have blocked the £3.5 billion (\$5.8 billion) bid, the biggest in British corporate history.

Minorco welcomed the decision, although the panel, a self-regulatory, non-statutory

body which applies the City of London business district's code on takeovers and mergers, made clear that the bid could still fail if all the legal proceedings blocking it were not called off.

Stake

Minorco, the Luxembourg-based investment arm of South African businessman Harry Oppenheimer's gold and diamond empire, already held 29.9 per cent of Cons Gold but is barred from increasing the stake as a result of anti-trust court actions in the United States.

But since its offer closed on

April 26, Minorco claims to speak for nearly 55 per cent of the Cons Gold's shares.

The takeover panel has now ruled that Cons Gold must call off its US legal action unless its shareholders vote to continue it at a special meeting to be called by May 30.

The panel said that to continue the legal action without shareholders' approval would unfairly frustrate Minorco's bid.

The final date by which the bid must either succeed or fail was extended to June 7 from May 17. Cons Gold's share price, after

an initial surge to £13.40 (\$22.24) after the panel statement, settled back to an unchanged £13.18 (\$21.88) suggesting the stock market was undecided over the outcome of the battle.

Minorco chief executive Sir Michael Edwards said: "The takeover panel ruling endorses the principle of shareholders' rights and we have no doubt it will be welcomed by all (Cons Gold) shareholders."

A Cons Gold spokesman said the company was taking advice from lawyers in Britain and the United States.

34 nations to take part Mitterrand to open 38th Paris air show

PARIS, May 9, (KUNA): French President, Francois Mitterrand, opens the 38th Paris international air and space show June 8, which features, among several new comers, the Soviet "MiG 29" and the American-made "SR-71" surveillance aircraft.

Situated at the airport of "Bourget", 15 kilometres north of Paris, the aerospace show is an 80-year-old tradition of technological breakthroughs which grew from an exhibit of balloons and wooden aircraft of the Wright Brothers to a showcase of progress in the aerospace industry.

The Soviet Union's pavilion is expected to attract a great deal of attention in the show this year, as it puts for show 10 aircraft, seven of which are coming to Paris for the first time.

Undoubtedly, the two versions of MiG29, Monoplace and Biplace, are to be the most sought by the cameras of the press, but there will also be the Sukhoi "SU25" and "SU26" advanced bombers.

These aircraft will present their capabilities in a demonstration at the air show by Soviet Air Force pilots.

Established for these demonstration flights and all others and will not interfere with flights to and from Charles de Gaulle Airport which lies 10 kilometres away.

They explained that a veritable electronic wall will prevent aircraft of the show from accidentally entering the traffic pattern of Charles de Gaulle Airport.

The US will bring the SR-71 surveillance aircraft, known as the Blackbird, which can cruise at altitudes superior to any other aircraft in the world.

The US pavilion will also put on show the F-18 of McDonnell Douglas in addition to hundreds of aviation equipment that range from aircraft engines to a parking safety pin of a "Piper" single-propeller plane.

France, the host country, will exhibit three versions of the "Mirage 2000" including the strategic nuclear-missile-carrier which has replaced the "Mirage F-4".

The 38th Paris international show is expected to break all previous records of exhibitors and visitors, a source at the organising committee told KUNA.

The source said that there will be 1,545 exhibitors this year from 34 nations, compared with 1,021 in 1987.

International Bond Highlights

LONDON: The Australian airline Qantas is issuing a 200.1 min US dr Eurobond due May 31, 1999 paying 9-7/8 pct and priced at 101-7/8 pct, lead manager Banque Paribas Capital Markets said. (QXCO 1028)

Tokyo: Kenwood Corp said it will issue 150 min drs in warrant bonds through public placement in overseas markets excluding the US (KXVF 0754)

London: The Industrial Development Bank of India is issuing a 100 min dr Eurobond due June 6, 1999 paying 11-3/4 pct and priced at 100-1/4 pct, lead manager Samuel Montagu and Co Ltd said. (DIXG 0844)

London: The Abbey National Building Society is issuing a 75 min ECU Eurobond due June 18, 1999 paying nine pct and priced at 101-3/8 pct, lead manager Dalva Europe Ltd said. (KXV2 0368)

Oslo: Foreign investors rushed to buy as Norway reopened its bond market to them for the first time in five years—but analysts say the boom will probably be short-lived and will not change the market in a major way. (OLCD 1428)

Paris: Schneider SA said it will issue 2.4 min convertible bonds paying six pct at an issue price of 850 francs, to raise 2.04 min francs. Some 510 min francs worth will be placed abroad with Paribas Capital Markets as lead manager. (PLCX 1502)

London: Landesbank Rheinland-Pfalz Finance NV is issuing a 65 min Canadian dr Eurobond due June 1, 1999 paying 11 pct and priced at 101-3/4 pct, lead manager Mitsubishi Finance International Ltd said. (XLDM 1518)

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	101.50	100	100	MUK IRON	115	113	115
ACC	309	308.50	308	GNFC	39.50	40	38 NAT INDEX	388.77		391.85
ADH CHEN	---	---	---	GRASIM	132.50	132	132.50	NIPPOW	40	37
ALU NIS	---	---	---	GSFC	142.50	140	142.50	NOCIL	865	852.50
ARI FIBER	---	---	---	GUJ ALK	71	70	71	ORICA	22.50	22.50
ASHOK LEY	81	80	82	GUJ HEAVY	13	12.25	12.25	OSHAL AGRO	77	78
ASIA PAINT	201.25	200	198.75	HERO HONDA	28	27.50	27	PEICO	24	25
ATLAS COP	48	46	48	HIND CIBA	1080	1060	1060	PFIZER	78.50	77
AUTO CORP	83.50	80	84	HIND COCOA	107	106.25	105	PONDS	191.25	192.50
BAJAJ AUTO	420	415	416.25	HIND LEVER	82.50	81.50	82.25	PRES AUTO	58.50	57
BAR RAYON	460	458	455	HIND MOTOR	45	44.50	45.25	RANBAY	115	116.25
BK BOND	150	148	150	HINDALCO	315	317.50	310	RAY MOOL	81	80
BLOM PLAST	---	---	---	HOECHST	860	850	870	RECKITT	190	185
BOM DYE	152	152	151	IND ORG	38	37	38	RELIANCE	128	124.50
BSE INDEX	749.75	753.53	753.53	IND RAYON	100	98	99.50	SESA GDA	46	46
BURR WEL	197.50	200	205	INDROL	320	316.25	317.50	SHRI FIB	83	82.50
CANSHARE	195	---	---	INGERSOLL	350	335	350	SIEMENS	78	76
CEN ENKA	2750	2730	2760	ITC	96	94	96.50	SKF	2890	2850
CEN SPM	1850	1830	1840	JK SYN	81.50	81	80	SPIC	59.50	58.50
CEN SPS	338.75	337.50	333.75	KIN ENGG	182.50	182.50	180	ST MILLS	285	280
CROH GR	940	925	950	KIR CUMM	75.50	74	75	TATA CHEM	120	118
DEEP FERT	28.50	28.50	28.50	L AND T	94	93.50	92	TATA POW	343.75	345
DUNLOP	91.25	90	92.50	LIPTON	77	77	78	TELCO	840	835
EI HOTELS	56.25	56	56.50	MAG RUSSEL	110	106.25	110	TRAPP AGRO	---	---
ESCORTEX	65.50	64.50	64.25	MAD COATS	100	98	100	TRISA	1420	1410
ESKAYEVE	135	133.75	132	MAHINDRA	105	105	105	VARIG	165	164
ESSAR SPS	26	25.50	25.25	MAS SHARE	19.50	18.75	19	VARELTI	31.25	32.50
FOOD SPL	200	197.50	200	MICO	630	620	620	VOLTA	680	680
FORBES	48	47	49	MILKFOOD	325	---	---	VIMCO	28.50	28
GAR POLY	74.50	74	74	MODI	112.50	110	107.50	ZENITH	65.50	63
GE SHIPPING	41.75	41.50	41.25	MRF LTD	430	425	435	ZEURA AGRO	60	62.50

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLOSE
AEG	218.0	219.0
ALLIANZ VR	1774.0	1790.0
BADEMEIER	189.0	190.0
BAFAG	305.0	305.4
BAYER	301.8	304.3
BAYER HYP	368.50	383.00
BAYER VER	373.0	384.0
BBC	445.0	445.0
BHF	461.0	467.0
BHW	510.5	514.5
COMMERZBK	250.5	252.8
CONTI GUMH	264.8	266.2
DALMER BEN	657.0	669.5
DEUTSC BAK	551.0	558.0
DLW	548.0	558.0
DRESNER B	325.5	327.8
DT BAROCK	164.0	165.0
FALZ INDEX	396.389	399.77
FELDMERLE	356.0	354.0
ATV SCHWID	356.0	354.0
CLBARDEN	408.0	418.50
HOECHST AG	303.0	305.0
HOECHST	243.5	245.0
HORTEN	260.0	260.0
HUSSEL HLD	561.0	572.0
KALI SALZ	497.0	510.5
KARLROF	469.0	474.0
KLOECK H	167.0	166.5
KLOECK M	170.0	173.5
LINDE	727.0	730.5
LUFTHANSA	173.5	172.5
MAN	290.2	289.0
MANHESMAN	233.1	235.5
MERCEDES	511.0	518.0
METALLURG	426.0	428.0
NORDST PF	309.0	307.0
NORSK HYD	46.60	47.30
PHILIP KOM	695.0	703.0
PORSCHE	680.0	689.0
PREUSSAG	267.0	266.0
PYRA	291.0	295.0
RHEINMETAL	431.0	433.0
RWE	280.0	280.0
RUE P	243.0	244.8
SALAMANDER	343.0	335.0
SCHERING	646.0	649.5
SEL	312.0	314.0
SIEMENS	528.7	535.7
THYSEN	235.3	237.8
VARTA	378.0	379.0
VERA	295.5	297.0
VEW	169.5	169.3
VOLKSWAGEN	337.5	342.0

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLOSE
BANK EA	17.30	16.90
CATHAY	10.00	10.00
CENVISH	4.05	4.10
CHUNG K	11.30	11.30
CHINA L-P	14.70	14.80
DAIRY FARM	7.35	7.35
EVERGO IND	3.17	3.20
GT EAGLE	0	0
H S INDEX	262.25	268.54
HACCO	21	21
HANG LUNG	6.60	6.65
HENDERSON	6.80	6.90
HK BANK	6.35	6.40
HK ELEC	8.35	8.35
HK GAS	21.10	21.00
HK LAND	12.50	12.50
HK TELECOM	5.45	5.50
HK S HOTEL	6.50	6.35
HOPWELL	3.17	3.25
HS BANK	25.80	25.90
MUTCHINSON	12.20	12.10
MYSAN DEV	1.70	1.71
JAR MATH	24.10	24.20
JSH	14.40	14.50
KN BUS	9.05	9.05
LAI SUN	187	186
MANDARIN O	9.15	9.15
NEARAW	14.40	14.40
NEW WORLD	1.51	1.52
PAUL Y CON	15.30	15.30
SHK PROP	3.27	3.32
STELLIX	23.10	23.10
SWIRE A	5.70	5.75
TAT CHEUNG	1.29	1.28
TY T	12.20	12.10
WAPF	10.80	10.90
WINSOR	5.30	5.25
WORLD INTL	5.30	5.25

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO, MAY 9, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED LOWER, SNAPPING A STRING OF SEVEN STRAIGHT RISES. RECENT GAINS IN SHARE PRICES AND THE DOLLAR ENCOURAGED PROFIT TAKING. THE DOLLAR EDGED BRIEFLY PAST 135 YEN TODAY, ENTERING AN AREA BROKERS SAID COULD PROMPT THE BANK OF JAPAN TO RAISE THE DISCOUNT RATE. TURNOVER WAS MODERATE AT ONE BILLION SHARES AGAINST 1.2 BILLION ON MONDAY.

THE KEY NIKKEI INDEX LOST 103.37 POINTS, OR 0.30 PCT, TO FINISH AT 34,031.87.

THE 225-SHARE INDEX CLIMBED 39.62 POINTS TO A RECORD TRADED 34,174.06 IN THE FIRST FOUR HOURS OF TRADE.

INDEX-LINKED BUYING BY INVESTMENT TRUSTS IN THE AFTERNOON HELPED THE NIKKEI REGAIN SOME GROUND AFTER IT FELL 186.82 POINTS TO A LOW 33,948.42 IN LATE MORNING TRADE.

THE NIKKEI RISE 180.25 POINTS TO ITS SIXTH STRAIGHT RECORD CLOSE OF 34,135.24 ON MONDAY.

"THE MARKET HAD BEEN UP FOR SEVEN DAYS IN A ROW AND THE DOLLAR REACHED 135 YEN. THIS BROUGHT ABOUT PROFIT TAKING," SAID SHINJI YOKOYAMA, A CHIEF PORTFOLIO MANAGER AT CREDIT SUISSE INVESTMENT ADVISORY CO.

"A DOLLAR BETWEEN 135 AND 136 YEN INCREASES THE LIKELIHOOD OF A DISCOUNT RATE RISE," HE SAID.

YOKOYAMA AT CREDIT SUISSE INVESTMENT SAID A RISE IN THE DISCOUNT RATE OF BETWEEN 0.5 AND 0.75 PERCENTAGE POINT HAS ALREADY BEEN DISCOUNTED IN THE MARKET, BUT A RISE OF ONE PERCENTAGE POINT COULD SET THE MARKET BACK TEMPORARILY.

THERE HAS BEEN TALK OF A DISCOUNT RATE RISE IN THE MARKET FOR OVER A MONTH NOW, HE SAID.

THE BROADER FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, CLOSED DOWN 6.37 POINTS AT 2,538.25 AFTER MONDAY'S 27.11-POINT GAIN.

FALLS LED RISES BY ABOUT NINE TO FIVE WITH 611 ISSUES LOWER, 349 HIGHER AND 137 UNCHANGED.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, MAY 9, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED LOWER AFTER SEE-SAWING THROUGHOUT THE DAY ON MODERATE TURNOVER.

THE HANG SENG INDEX SHED 6.29 POINTS TO END AT 3,262.25. PROFIT-TAKING PUSHED THE INDEX LOWER IN EARLY TRADE, BUT IT LATER RETRIEVED LOSSES TO CLOSE 9.21 POINTS UP AT MIDDAY.

"THERE SEEMS TO BE A LOT OF MIXED FEELINGS OUT THERE," A BROKER SAID OF THE MARKET'S UNEVEN PERFORMANCE.

"WE'VE HAD A SHARP RUN-UP IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. WE CAN'T GO UP IN A STRAIGHT LINE," SAID ANOTHER.

TURNOVER FELL TO 1.79 BILLION H.K. DLS FROM 2.54 BILLION ON MONDAY, SIGNALLING SLOWING MOMENTUM, BROKERS SAID.

AMMAN

OPMG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.86 1.95
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.94 2.02
ARAB BANK	150.0 149.5
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.44 4.42
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44 2.41
ARAB INSURANCE	1.09 1.08
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.62 0.62
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.01 0.96
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	1.01 1.06
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.35 2.30
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.43 0.43
ARAB PHARMA/MANF.	3.28 3.38
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	1.00 1.04
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65 1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	15.09 15.09
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITHA	1.10 1.10
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00 0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	31.00 30.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05 1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.46 0.48
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	2.39 2.43
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.74 0.78
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75 0.71
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.60 4.60
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39 2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.27 1.25
GENERAL MINING	2.10 2.10
HIMMEL MINERALS	0.75 0.75
HOY LAND INS.	1.44 1.44
IND./MATCH JENCO	0.65 0.68
INDUSTRIAL DEVELP BAK	1.63 1.65
INDUSTRIAL INVESTR.	1.60 1.66
INTERN. CON/INV	0.75 0.75
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.90 0.90
ISLAMIC INV. CITY	0.64 0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.85 1.94
J.-TOUR-SP COM	0.79 0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26 1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.75 19.75
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.92 2.02
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05 25.05
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.48 1.49
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.20 1.22
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	1.00 1.01
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.30 2.30
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20 1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79 0.83
JOR LIN BRICK	0.20 0.20
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50 0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.41 2.50
JOR PAPER CARDBRSG	3.75 3.60
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.60 3.60
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.96 2.06
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.79 1.72
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25 4.40
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.95 1.00
JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12 1.11
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.10 2.02
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	2.25 2.36
JOR WORSTED MLL	5.00 5.00
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	0.91 0.91
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.85 7.90
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45 5.45
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	2.30 2.35
JORDANIAN GULF REAL	0.36 0.38
JORDAN DAIRY	0.92 0.96
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.21 1.20
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94 0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	3.15 3.31
JORDAN ISLAMIC BAK	1.99 1.99
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.40 1.35
JORDAN TANNING	2.05 2.05
LIVESTOCK/POLTRY	0.71 0.71
MACH/RENT/RENT/MAIN	0.78 0.81
MID EAST EXCHANGE	1.17 1.11
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.44 0.46
MIDDEL EAST INS	2.00 2.02
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.75 0.75
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.90 1.91
NAT/CABLE/WIRE/HF	2.22 2.33
NATIONAL ANLIA INS	1.33 1.30
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.97 0.96
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.88 0.89
ORIENTAL STEEL	2.85 2.87
ORIENT ORIENT BATTERY	0.25 0.28
PETRA BANK	0.35 0.35
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35 0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.10 1.11
PRECAST CONCRETE	0.70 0.74
RAFFIA INDUSTRIAL	1.91 1.91
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.63 0.66
SHIPPING LINES	1.09 1.14
THE HOUSING BANK	1.85 1.90
UNITED INSURANCE	1.16 1.16
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	3.02 3.17
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.45 0.48
WOOLLEN INDUSTRIES	0.85 0.85
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.30 1.30

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	97.50	98.00	100.00
AC-A	22.50	22.75	22.00	LC-B	30	31	30
AMS	4.10	4.15	3.45	PK-A	32	33	33
GLO	30.50	31.00	31.00	PK-B	33	34	34
PLDT	327.50	330.00	330.00	OIL SECTOR			
KPSI-A	3.65	3.70	3.70	BP-B	0.14	0.15	0.15
KPSI-B	6.00	220.00	220.00	LR-B	0.014	0.016	0.016
SMC-B	219.00	310.00	305.00	LR-C	0.0034	0.0036	0.0034
WINING SECTOR				OP-A	0.044	0.047	0.047
APX-A	0.18	0.19	0.18	OP-B	0.048	0.049	0.049
APX-B	0.18	0.19	0.19	OP-C	0.047	0.048	0.048
AT-A	46.50	47.00	47.50	OP-D	0.048	0.049	0.049

Manila Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION					
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES	
C/I	3,029,295	243,354,465	1,244.37	17.62	UP
MINING	234,923,400	11,540,410	5,439.21	142.42	DN
OIL	295,400,000	9,278,490	7.281	0.088	DN
TOTAL	531,353,295	264,173,365	1,035.80	3.88	DN

PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR							
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	97.50	98.00	100.00
SMC-A	218.00	219.00	220.00	BC-B	104.00	110.00	
SMC-B	305.00		305.00	LC-A	.30	.31	.30
SD-TIRE	44.00	46.50		LC-B	.31	.32	.31
PLOT	327.30	330.00	327.50	ZIP	.013	.014	
WINDSOR-A4-L	4.10	4.15	3.50	OIL SECTOR			
AC-A	22.25	2.50	21.75	STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN
GLO	31.00	31.50	31.00	BP-A	.014	.015	.015
FER-A	2.20	2.32	2.18	BP-B	.015	.016	.015
FER-B	2.42	2.44	2.30	LC-A	.0036	.0038	.0036
MINING SECTOR				LC-B	.0036	.0038	.0036
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPW-A <td>.047</td> <td>.048</td> <td>.047</td>	.047	.048	.047
APX-A *	.018	.019	.019	OPW-B	.048	.049	.048
APX-B *	.018	.019	.019	OV-A	.047	.048	.048
AT-A	46.00	47.00	47.00	OV-B	.048	.049	.049
AT-B	45.00	48.50		TA	.024	.025	.024

'Youths waiting for work'

Rising jobless rate seen as threat to China's stability

BEIJING, May 9, (Reuters): Large numbers of unemployed thrown out of work by a tough austerity programme form a disquieting and restless threat to China's political stability, diplomats said.

"There is already an alarming increase in social unrest and violence," said a Western diplomat. "Gangs of unemployed people have caused an increase in crime."

In a major departure from the full-employment tenet of the communist state, China no longer guarantees jobs in government enterprises to those seeking work.

It is unable to create enough new jobs for graduates leaving school and many youngsters are forced to wait years before they are given employment.

They are euphemistically called "youths waiting for work."

An austerity programme to control record inflation has worsened the situation, throwing many people out of work.

Most of them were hired as day-labourers working on construction projects that have since been put on hold.

Courage

Millions more could be threatened if China ever finds the political courage to make its industry more efficient and sack those who have jobs but nothing to do.

"Those out of work are the worst-educated, the most unhappy and the most rowdy," another Western diplomat said. "If there are large numbers of unemployed people running around it is a potential source of instability."

Student groups formed the core of pro-democracy and anti-corruption protests that rocked Beijing and other major cities during the past three weeks.

But rioting in two provincial capitals last month was linked to unemployed youths, according to witnesses and official accounts.

"The linking up of workers, unemployed and students terrifies the government," a diplomat said.

Vast crowds of sympathetic Beijing residents watched student demonstrations in the capital, fueling government fears the protests could spread beyond the campuses.

In Shanghai, China's largest city, police kept bystanders strictly separated from students marching there.

"Students and intellectuals start revolutions, not the masses," a diplomat said. But economic woes, including 30 per cent inflation and rising unemployment, could spread the unrest.

A government official said yesterday the state could only guarantee jobs for half the 10 million new job seekers this year, adding China had to get used to the phenomenon of unemployment.

In an interview in the official China

Daily newspaper, Xi Zhongshen of the State Commission for Restructuring the Economy said the nominal unemployment rate would rise to 3.5 per cent in 1989 from two per cent in 1988.

Low

But economists say the unemployment figure is misleadingly low because it does not include 20 to 30 million employed but redundant workers.

A major factor blocking labour reform is the lack of an unemployment insurance system.

People who lose their job in China lose much of their identity as well: housing, medical care and ration coupons are all controlled through the work unit.

More than two million unemployed flooded the southern province of Guangdong earlier this year in a desperate search for work, and hundreds of thousands similarly descended on other major cities.

Meeting to discuss toxic waste

Africa 'must show more resolve on environment'

NAIROBI, May 9, (Reuters): Africa must show more resolve in tackling its environmental problems if it wants foreign donors to help, a US-sponsored report says.

It said the amount of money allotted by African governments for an environmental campaign launched in 1985 remained a serious block on implementing the plan.

While possibilities for outside assistance exist, donors are waiting for clear evidence of commitment on the part of the African governments before they make their firm and concrete offers," it added.

The report, compiled by officials from the Nairobi-based United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and representatives of African countries, will be submitted to a three-day meeting of the continent's environment ministers starting in Nairobi tomorrow.

The conference is part of the so-called Cairo programme for African co-operation launched in 1985.

Goals

The Cairo programme's goals are to halt environmental degradation, help Africans to produce enough food and energy for themselves and to achieve a balance between environmental resources and the population.

Africa's population has tripled over the past 40 years to 600 million people and is expected to reach one billion by the year 2000.

The conference will pay particular attention to toxic waste dumping in Africa and to threats to the world's ozone layer posed by chlorofluorocarbons, widely used in aerosols, refrigeration and packaging, UNEP said.

A row which erupted last year over toxic waste subsided after most of the world's governments adopted a treaty in March to

check trade in such waste.

A spokesman for the African group said then, however, that although they approved the treaty they would consult further before signing.

In one much publicised case, 4,000 tonnes of Italian toxic waste was found in leaking barrels in the Nigerian port of Koko.

A ship chartered by Italy to remove the waste, the Karin B, was turned away from five Western European countries before returning to Italy.

No estimates have been published of how much money is needed to implement the Cairo programme.

Launched under the slogan "sowing the seeds of hope," it focuses on four broad areas of concern: deserts and arid lands, rivers and lake basins, forests and woodlands, and the sea.

Debt

But in a continent fighting to cope with huge foreign debt and widespread poverty, and where services like health and education suffer from shrinking budgets, environmental issues do not necessarily rank among many governments' top priorities.

The report noted a meeting was held in March 1988 between representatives of 49 African countries, 13 donor countries and UN agencies to discuss the Cairo programme.

Donors named projects they were willing to support and suggested African countries approach them for aid. A year later some donors had still not been contacted.

African governments were also urged to contribute some of the funds they obtained from the UN development programme and other sources to help implement the Cairo programme. But by February only 15 countries had done so.

'Tied aid' stance played

WASHINGTON, May 9, (AP): US lawmakers yesterday criticised the administration of President George Bush for failing to recommend how to compete with Japan, France and other countries in promoting US exports.

Criticism was focused on the use of "tied aid" — money lent by governments of industrial countries at rates subsidised by their taxpayers to encourage Third World countries to buy their goods.

"In 1987, the US offered about \$200 million in tied aid, of which about 65 million was actually spent," said Rep. Sam Givens, chairman of the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy. It is part of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives.

"By contrast, Japan offered more than \$3.4 billion of which about \$1.1 billion was actually provided. Japan is spending 17 times what the US spending on tied aid to support its exporters."

France is spending 12 times the US amount, he said.

He estimated the loss to US exporters at nearly \$3 billion worth of business a year.

"As a direct result of our unwillingness to even compete, 50,000 Americans are losing their jobs each year," he said.

The US government's Export-Import Bank, which furnishes subsidised loans to help US exporters, was to have made a report with recommendations by December 31, 1988, when former President Ronald Reagan was still in office. Its report was submitted on April 20 of this year, without recommendations.

US economy is slowing

Dollar remains very much within a bull phase

THE dollar has been strengthening throughout the week despite concerted central bank intervention on a number of occasions. However, the smaller than expected gain in non-farm payroll jobs for April caused the dollar to drop more than one penny to DM1.883 but it quickly recovered, according to NBK weekly financial market report.

Other data released this week indicated a decline in home construction spending which parallels the fall of 5.4 per cent in housing starts in March as well as the unexpectedly sharp 5.5 per cent fall in home sales in March.

The dollar ended the week at yen 133.8 and DM1.88.

Factory orders rose a slightly lower than expected 0.7 per cent in March following a 1.7 per cent fall in February.

However, excluding aircraft, orders for durable goods fell 3.6 per cent.

Factory shipments fell 0.1 per cent in March which was lower than 0.1 per cent increase forecast.

Support

New home sales fell a much higher than anticipated 5.5 per cent in March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 587,000 units. This was the lowest level since 576,000 units in January 1988. February sales were revised to show a 10.5 per cent decrease from January levels to an annual rate of 621,000 units.

Construction spending fell 0.3 per cent in March which was the third consecutive monthly decline. This followed falls of 0.8 per cent in February and 0.7 per cent in January. The market forecast was for a 0.5 per cent drop.

Economic indicators this week

all support mounting evidence that the economy is slowing under the weight of the rising interest rates over the past year. Usually the earliest signs of an interest rate induced economic slowdown are seen in expenditures and particularly those made with borrowed money for homes, buildings, cars, etc.

The latest job creation slowdown should further ease concern that the economy is overheating and is likely to diminish the possibility of a further hike in interest rates in the short-term.

For the immediate term the dollar remains very much within a bull phase. The market is expected to test further highs. Nevertheless, significant central bank intervention around current levels is anticipated which should ease some of the upward pressure.

It has been a very quiet week with a few financial centres trading due to various public holidays. This, together with the lack of economic data releases this week has meant that sterling has remained on the sidelines confined to a narrow range. Earlier slight weakness was virtually entirely recouped with the pound finishing the week unchanged at £\$1.68 and DM3.17.

Gold and foreign currency reserves in the UK unexpectedly increased in April by \$325 million to \$47.26 billion from \$46.93 billion in March. The underlying rise was lower than anticipated last month.

With sterling currently holding firm there is little likelihood of an interest rate hike but equally there is also no prospect of an early cut in rates until inflation is clearly seen to be coming under control.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Nigel Lawson, effectively helped to underpin the pound this week by advising Parliament that the government's anti-inflationary measures were clearly now beginning to have an effect.

However, more economic indicators due out next week including retail sales and producer price index (PPI) input and output prices, will be keenly followed for evidence of current economic and inflationary trends. Whilst on balance we expect retail sales to be flat, a positive number is still likely. With inflationary numbers still in the pipeline the PPI figures are anticipated to be higher. Although these numbers alone are unlikely to provoke a change in interest rate policy a further rise cannot be ruled out. Sterling is expected to continue to be supported for the time being and trade slightly softer within the following ranges: DM3.16-3.19 and £\$1.67-1.71.

West German industrial production provisionally fell 0.9 per cent in March from February having been revised to unchanged in February from January. However, it was still 4.9 per cent higher than a year ago.

Separately, West Germany's import prices jumped one per cent in March compared to a 0.3 per cent rise in February whilst export prices increased 0.5 per cent following a 0.2 per cent gain in February.

The Japanese yen continues to be undermined by the current political uncertainties and by the Japanese authorities' reluctance to increase the discount rate.

Credit terms highly competitive

Zurich's pawnshop is a bank with a heart

ZURICH, May 9, (Reuters): Switzerland's biggest pawn shop is a bank with a heart.

Zurich's Pfandkassette is run as a charity by the publicly-owned Cantonal Bank. Its loans are so cheap that it always makes a loss.

"We play a welfare role. We are the only alternative to private consumer credit," says director Paul Mueller, who will take almost anything which has resale value as security, from a diamond ring to a bicycle.

His strongpoint: Pfandkassette's worth 20 million Swiss francs (\$11.9 million) ranging from expensive jewellery, furs, and oriental rugs to bicycles, clocks, radios, cameras and even a large Swiss cow bell.

Borrowing is simpler at the shop than at a bank. No awkward questions are asked about income or creditworthiness.

The customer enters through automatic doors into a small vestibule to wait under the gaze of a security camera until one of five cubicles becomes free.

Once in the cubicle, door closed for privacy, the article offered as security is displayed to a clerk behind a bullet-proof screen. If it is accepted, the customer can be out of the shop with the loan in five minutes.

The only documents required are an identity card and, if possible, a receipt or insurance certificate proving ownership, to protect the shop against receiving stolen goods.

The five staff serve up to 10,000 customers a year and can value most articles quickly. With more complicated loans, for example involving a lot of gems, outside experts are consulted. Switzerland has no privately-owned pawnshops because they

are not a commercial proposition. Pawnshops are by law allowed to charge interest of only one per cent a month, not enough to cover the cost of administering a large number of small loans.

As a result the country has only three pawnshops, all publicly owned and subsidised. Their credit terms are highly competitive compared with loan rates of up to 18 per cent a year charged by banks, but all three operate at a loss.

Last year's loss at the Zurich Pfandkassette was 275,000 Swiss francs (\$164,000) on total lending of 9.12 million Swiss francs (\$5.43 million).

Despite the losses, Mueller says the Cantonal Bank is required by law to run a pawnshop.

"The need for the shop is proven," he adds. A third of the loans are for around 500 Swiss francs (\$300), and a fifth for less than 100 Swiss francs (\$60). Only 10 per cent are for more than 1,000 francs (\$600).

Established in 1872, the pawnshop has moved premises six times and has been located in a modern block near the city centre since last November.

Losses are kept to a minimum by efficient use of computers for keeping accounts and printing pawn receipts.

Once dubbed the "Poor people's bank," the shop's clientele now is more mixed and includes the well-to-do as well as needy.

Many customers return each month, often because they cannot make their wages last a full four weeks. Typically such a client will hook a gold watch to borrow 300 to 500 Swiss francs (\$180 to 300) for a few days until the next pay cheque.

Work slowdown launched

Air controllers seek higher wages

WARSAW, Poland, May 9, (AP): The 150-member Association of Polish Air Traffic Controllers launched a work slowdown yesterday seeking higher wages and modernisation of radar equipment, three members of the group said.

A "by-the-book" slowdown began with the morning shift, allowing takeoffs only at 10-minute intervals and lengthening the distance between planes coming in to land, according to the three group members interviewed on condition that their names not be used.

Proclaiming a "strike alert," they said they were forced into the protest because they did not get a satisfactory response to repeated requests for improved equipment and pay.

By late afternoon, flights in and out of Warsaw were running up to 40 minutes behind schedule because of the protest, controllers said.

"I have no comment on the subject," said Zbigniew Dabkowski, director of commercial cargo for Polish Lot Air Lines. "I don't think it affects us to such a degree that anybody would want

to comment on it. Talks continue."

Another round of talks is scheduled for Thursday.

In addition to ageing, unreliable radar, they said that the relative decline in controllers' wages compared to the country's 80 per cent inflation rate has caused a number of controllers to leave the service and forced others to take second jobs.

Understaffing and moonlighting has added to the job's normal level of fatigue and stress, they said.

The controllers now earn 100,000 zlotys (\$147) a month with overtime, about the national average, they said. They said they seek pay ranging from 1.5 to 3.2 times the national average — or from about 150,000 zlotys (\$220) for assistant controllers to about 320,000 zlotys (\$470) for senior supervisors.

According to the controllers, they largely work without radar except for takeoffs and landings because Poland's two long-range radar installations break down so often.

Foreign banks in India

Aggressive role pays

BOMBAY, May 9, (Agencies): The performance of foreign banks operating in India in 1988 in the matter of mobilisation of deposits and deployment of their resources provides a sharp contrast to that of the domestic banks during the same year.

Data supplied by the Reserve Bank have said the deposits of these foreign banks grew by 30 per cent during 1988 against only 19.3 per cent for nationalised banks and 16.9 per cent for State Bank of India and its associates. So also, the advances of foreign banks rose by 35.4 per cent against 22.5 per cent for SBI and its associates and 18.7 per cent for the nationalised banks.

The comparison of the performance of the foreign banks with that of the domestic banks may not be strictly apt, because the bases of the banks in the areas of deposits and advances are enormously different.

The bases of deposits and advances of the foreign banks are notably small vis-a-vis those of the domestic banks and even if the growth in these areas for the foreign banks tends to be brisker than it used to be it may look like a runaway growth, say banking sources.

However, there is no denying the fact, it is said, the foreign banks operating in India have tended to be quite aggressive for

some time now in mobilising deposits and lending their funds to the borrowers.

A senior executive of a foreign bank in Bombay says quite a few of these banks have brought the concept of "high street" banking as is available in, say, the U.K. to India in wooing customers and drumming up their loan business and improving their profitability.

These banks have launched a spate of services to help the would be savers, particularly in managing their savings and enhancing their returns on these savings.

The banks provide specialised service to the savers, which is very needed as a hedge against inflation, says the executive.

The broad spectrum of services include advice debentures by way of portfolio management, planning and the package of investments to be done to suit individual needs.

The range of investments may include the purchase of PSU bonds, company deposits or units as needed by the investor's preferences.

It is an accepted fact that all the foreign banks operating in India provide efficient customer service, may be because their customer base is small and they have been able to computerise their services. Moreover, the opera-

tions of these banks are mostly confined to metros and large towns and their customers are the elite or from the urban middle class. Yet, in enticing more customers, even these banks have launched schemes like ATMs or credit cards or the purchase of cars or two-wheelers or "white" durables on a convenient payment basis.

A few of the foreign banks have set up divisions for the efficient management of funds of their big clients like trusts to fetch good returns on the funds.

Some foreign banks have played a key role in the mobilisation of NRI savings thereby boosting their deposits and these funds have come in handy for their domestic operations.

The merchant banking divisions of these banks are offering capital market services to their corporate clients along with advice on the management of funds, acquisitions and mergers, raising of foreign currency loans, floatation of joint ventures or hedging packages against currency risks.

The advances portfolio of the foreign banks, no doubt, are dominated by large borrowers, but, over the years these banks have sought to add smaller borrowers, too, to their portfolios, particularly those in exports.

The driving forces for all this are one part demographic, one part technological, and perhaps two parts competitive. First, the number of college-educated entry-level workers is shrinking as the baby-boomers move into mid-career.

Second, jobs are getting more technologically sophisticated. Many companies foresee that they will have to dip further and further into the pool of less-educated workers if they are to remain competitive and fill needed positions.

The auto industry is a striking

example.

Foreign competition forced US automakers to retrain and upgrade their workers' skills. GM was more reluctant to change than most. "GM's a late learner," says Anthony Carnevale, vice-president of the American Society for Training and Development. But "GM has learned with a vengeance."

The change in attitudes can be seen throughout GM from the shop floor to the huge Human Resources Centre jointly created in 1984 by GM and its largest union, the United Automobile Workers (UAW). The goal, according to officials at the training centre, is a work force that is flexible and eager for change and new responsibility.

"We don't want people stretching for a steady state," says John R. Furman, co-director of

the skilled development and training programme at the UAW/GM centre. Once they recognise that the programme works, our only problem is slowing them down."

The Buick-Oldsmobile-Cadillac assembly plant in Lansing, already a model of co-operation, is seeing even more changes in relationships and work patterns. They ask a lot of questions," says Lyle Sample. As the plant's manufacturing co-ordinator for production, Sample says employees are intimately involved in suggesting improvements, working with suppliers, and helping accommodate new technology. "If you don't listen to them, you're crazy," he says, "because they know what's going on."

The change in this labour-management relationship didn't happen overnight at GM. The first joint programmes in

health and safety date back to 1973 and gathered momentum. The real breakthrough came during union negotiations in 1984, when leaders on both sides of the bargaining table agreed to create a joint human resources centre. The centre now spends \$180 million a year on joint training programmes (which doesn't take into account various other training efforts sponsored by the company or the UAW).

This flow of money has been a boon to foremen and local union members who recognised the need for more training but had no resources to do it.

Now, both sides work together to formulate training programmes and then present them to the plant supervisor and the UAW/GM Human Resource Centre. The growth of training at the area human resource centre here in Lansing parallels what has taken place throughout GM.

The first joint programmes in

A work force that is flexible and eager for change

LANSING, Mich., May 9: America's next generation of workers will step out of the classroom and into, well, the classroom.

That's because businesses in the United States are waking up to the need for more worker education and training.

In a speech two months ago, General Motors executive vice-president Alan Smith bragged that the company had spent \$1.3 billion on training in the last five years, "which makes us the country's largest privately funded educational and training institution."

The move to training is by no means limited to GM. Other automakers have jumped even faster into the fray. Allstate Insurance, already a dedicated training company, expects training per employee to increase 10 to 15 per cent by the year 2000.

"The degree and extensiveness

of business involvement is at an all-time high," says Jeanne Allen, education editor for the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think-tank.

"And it's not going to get much less until we get better performance in the schools."

Competitive

The driving forces for all this are one part demographic, one part technological, and perhaps two parts competitive. First, the number of college-educated entry-level workers is shrinking as the baby-boomers move into mid-career.

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technologically sophisticated. Many companies foresee that they will have to dip further and further into the pool of less-educated workers if they are to remain competitive and fill needed positions.

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VIDEO CORNER

Murder, conspiracy and a convincing Poirot

By Gail Seery
Arab Times staff

MANY Agatha Christie stories have been adapted for television and the big screen, with varying amounts of ingenuity and sensitivity. I'm sure that if I'd met Hercule Poirot for the first time on the big screen, in his Peter Ustinov incarnation, I would never have picked an Agatha Christie novel off the shelf. Anyone who was driven to try the so-called queen of crime after having enjoyed the film would probably have been disappointed too, expecting Gatsby-like glamour, and all the technicolour trappings of the big screen versions.

In the new television series, Agatha Christie's Poirot we are at last presented with a convincing detective. Instead of making him into a weird, and somewhat unimpressive glib-tongued, David Suchet brings a serious note to the role. Rather than making the master detective pompous, this adds to his

charm, and brings out the gentle and subtle humour of his interplay with the terribly English and incredibly naive Hastings.

Typical

The first of the "Agatha Christie's Poirot" video cassettes features two hour-long tales: *Murder in the Mews* and *The Adventure of John Wesley*. Both of these are homely, but typical Poirot tales, relying less on exotic scenery than on the commonplace, the psychology of the criminal and the nature of the crime. Poirot gets every opportunity to show off his "little grey cells".

I could never believe that anybody would hire Peter Ustinov's Poirot to solve a murder of a mystery — Suchet is totally convincing as the shrewd and formidable man who everybody turns to in times of trouble. This is the first screen Poirot we can really believe in. He uses the mannerisms as des-

cribed by Christie, without appearing absurd, only unique.

Both episodes — a suicide looking suspiciously like murder, and a threatened kidnapping — are nicely drawn, never exaggerated, and, more importantly perhaps where Christie is concerned, never quite too bland. Suchet's excellent acting is nicely set off by the support of Hugh Fraser as Captain Hastings, Philip Jackson as the terse Chief Inspector Japp and Pauline Moran as the intimidatingly efficient Miss Lemon in perpetual quest of the perfect fling system.

All the clues are there to be found by the observant viewer, and there is a great deal of pleasure in guessing — or remembering, whodunnit.

"Without A Clue" is a new look at Sherlock Holmes, but unlike in "Agatha Christie's Poirot", instead of lending substance to a detective who has become a legend, it presents a spoof of the whole concept of

Holmes and Watson.

Ben Kingsley makes a superb Dr. Watson — the true brains behind the pair, and Michael Caine is definitely in one of his better roles as the actor who has been hired to pretend to be Holmes. Of course, the only other person outside the Watson/Holmes household to be aware of the truth is the devilish master criminal, Moriarty.

"He's trying to kill me?" yells a terrified Kincade (Caine) as he tries to run away. "No, no," soothes Watson. "He knows you're an imbecile." "Thank God," murmurs Kincade.

The two men find each other insufferable, but after trying to live apart, they discover that they are, and always will be, inseparable, and that there is always one more case to be solved.

This is a nice idea, but might flag without the talents of Kingsley and Caine to set it off. As it is, it's a very funny and entertaining film.

ACT's final production of the season this month

"WHEN the Wind Blows", ACT's final production of the season, will be performed later this month at the Mousetrap Theatre.

It is about an old couple, happily retired and living in the country, who are slowly overwhelmed by an international crisis that leads to a nuclear attack on Britain. When a bomb drops 25 miles away, they slowly succumb to radiation.

Performed without an interval, the play is demanding for the two performers, for the backstage team (who have 40 seconds to reproduce the effects of a nuclear explosion) and for the audience who will find this show far removed from light comedy.

Though the play deals with a gloomy and depressing subject,

it is occasionally lit with flashes of bleak or black humour.

Former professional actor Michael Thomas makes his acting debut in Kuwait as James Bloggs. Cynthia Lloyd plays Hilda Bloggs. Cynthia has previously performed in ACT's *Scrooge*, *The Bald Soprano* and *The Madwoman of Chailot*.

Thomas Zugic directs the ACT production.

When the Wind Blows, acclaimed as the "most bizarre theatre" by a London critic, proved to be a great success in its original conception as a cartoon film featuring the voices of John Mills and Peggy Ashcroft.

It will be performed from May 16 to 18 at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School. For reservations call 5620332, 4-8 pm.

Prameela prepares for 'Nrithotsav '89'

FOLLOWING the tremendous success of the 'Nrithotsav '88' in September last year, Prameela Surendran, the most popular dancer among the Indian community in Kuwait, now brings forth her box office hits for this year.

The preparations are underway for two hit shows. The first one will be a variety dance programme by her students 'Thalalayam' — which includes many types of classical, semi-classical and folk dances from India. This will be staged at Sharq Co-operative Society Auditorium on 15th June.

Preparations have already started for staging the other programme — 'Nrithotsav '89' — which consists of a ballet 'Anarkali' — a historic love story of Salem and Nadheera, which will be staged in a pure Hindustani style, and costumes, will be really a new experience for the Kuwait stages. The talent in style and beauty of Prameela who acts in the leading role as 'Anarkali' and her student Balram as Salem, is expected to thrill the audience indeed. The date and venue for this programme is still not finalised but the organisers said that it will be staged before October. Simultaneously it will be also staged in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain by Narthana within this year.

At the end of the What's On column can be sent by telefax (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Sharwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Prameela Surendran

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Sha'ab Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St.
Loulia Pharmacy
Ahmed Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Hawalli Pharmacy
Tunis St, Hawalli
Salwa and Rasmithiya
Al Shifa Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.
Fahad and Almadhi
Al Khalij Pharmacy
Al Mujama St., Fahad
Jaleel Al Shuyoukh
Al Numan Pharmacy
Opp. Intermediate School
Jahra
Al Abraj Pharmacy
Near the Educational Dept.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV1

MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
9.45 The World via Satellite
10.00 Yaseen Wa Bahiya: Arabic serial (Part 2)
10.45 News summary and varieties
11.00 Al Aswar: local serial (Part 2)
12.00 News and varieties
12.15 Circus
1.00 News summary
1.05 Holy Quran/ Close-down

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 The World via Satellite
4.45 Sherlock Holmes: cartoon serial
5.15 Varieties
5.30 Liqq' Fi Ethakira: historical serial
6.15 Ma'a Al Talabah: presented by Issa Roshoud, prepared by the school activity department
7.30 Lawhat Shabiya: local programme, presented by Mohammed Al Mtairi
8.00 Cultural film
8.30 Good Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
9.35 Varieties
9.45 Layali Al Hilmiya: daily Arabic serial
10.45 Wadi Al Ghozlan: Bedouin serial: starring Mahmoud Saad, Sabah Jazayri and Adib Qadoura
11.45 News summary
12.35 World News via Satellite

Charlie collects help for sick people... Luxurious houses for dogs and cats... Training dogs on certain activities...

7.00 Danger Bay... "Dying Swan"... Troubles strike as Nicole discovers Jenny's secret: an accident that left her mother, a once-famous ballerina, in a wheelchair.

7.30 Body Matters. A look at sight and visual deception. The relation between vision and the brain...

8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law
8.45 Sonny Spoon... "Semper Paratus". Spoon tries to unravel the activities of a Philippine woman officer who is tracing a criminal gang for smuggling girls out of the country.

9.30 The Cosby Show. The eldest daughter is about to give birth to her first child and every thing is upside down in the house...

10.00 Just for the Record. An exciting and entertaining show capturing record breaking achievements from the tremendous to the trivial...

10.30 Feature film. The Resting Place. Major Lard arrives in Georgia with the corpse of Captain Dowiet who is killed in Vietnam... The mayor of the town refuses to bury the corpse in the white's cemetery...

12.00 News in brief
12.15 Magazine d'Actualite/ Close-down

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

KTV2

6.00 Opening Announcement and Holy Quran
6.10 Racoons. A cartoon series for children
6.30 Mac and Muffy. Crippled Dan and his dog

CINEMA TODAY

Andalus
Iron Angle
Hamra
Just A Damned Soldier
Drive-in
Arabian film
Fahad Open air
Hero Hiralal
Fahad
Arabian film
Jahra
Rage
Granada
Arabian film
Salaikhah
Kudumba Puranam
Firdous
Clerk

Salamya
(Theatre reserved for some programmes)
Al Jaleel
Beetle Juice
Almadhi Drive-In
Arabian film

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.31 am
Zuhr 11.49
Asr 3.20 pm
Maghreb 6.30
Isha 7.55

January... another off-beat cop movie

By Shaun Seekins

NOTHING in the first twenty minutes of January Man indicates that it could be considered as a comedy, despite its US advertising campaign. Kevin Kline (remember him as the villain in A Fish Called Wanda) describes the film as a murder-mystery-comedy-thriller-film-noir with something for everyone. Overall it is more of an eccentric police detective story than a comedy, and the main character, police detective Nick Starkey (Kline) exhibits many of the qualities seen in some of the best of the genre. He is a team player and has been expelled from the force on some corruption charges. His methods when he was with the police made him quite a few enemies and he is still regarded as a beatnik by many. He lives in Greenwich Village, is an ardent cook and just loves to hear his wife breathe. His neighbour is a struggling artist/computer expert named Ed (played by Alan Rickman, the villain in Die Hard). The story opens with a grisly murder, the victim as many months, and as his daughter was with him before he was killed, the mayor of New York (Rod Steiger) is under pressure to re-instate Starkey. He agrees, on condition that he can cook dinner for his brother's wife (Susan Sarandon) with whom he once had an affair and who was partly responsible for



Kevin Kline and Susan Sarandon in January Man.

his fall from grace. This accomplished he decides against trying to resume his relationship with her and instead sets his sights on the mayor's daughter, Bernadette (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio). Using deductive powers that would have had Sherlock Holmes reeling, Starkey manages to pinpoint not only the date of the killer's next attack, but also the exact flat in which it will take place.

Performance
The film starts well and probably could have been a brilliant thriller if the director had stuck to that aspect of the script and used the pace of the first 20 minutes to bulldoze aside some of the more absurd situations that develop towards the end, however that said, the performances were good, especially the two female stars

who really shine.

Who's Harry Crumb stars John Candy and is definitely a comedy in the American slapstick tradition. Candy is the latest in a long line of Crumb's, his family founded the detective agency of Crumb and Harry is recalled when a potential crisis looms to solve a kidnapping mystery. He, unfortunately, has a tendency to be a little maladroit and a large part of the humour in the film revolves on him to destroy most of the experienced men he is sent to on him. He bumbles his way forward, developing a theory about the kidnapping that is nowhere near the truth, but of course luck is with him and it all turns out right in the end.

The Nature of the Beast is a little like KES, the setting is also north of England working

class. Something is killing the sheep on Haverston Moor and the chickens in the backyard of young Bill Coward's dingy home where he lives with his boozey grandfather and tight-lipped dad. For fun and suspense, Bill and his schoolmate Mick, roam the moors with an airgun when they aren't hanging around the chippie. The newspapers have dubbed the mysterious predator the "Beast", and when a reward of £500 is offered for photographic evidence, the two lads, pluck, bluff teacher's assistant and set off in search of the unknown killer.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintias/Farwaniya; Video Mael, mezzanine, Salaikhah Complex; Tel: 2432888; and Video Club, Salamiya, Tel: 5724372.



Louis R. Plummer (left) general marketing manager, Ford International Export Sales, opens a new Ford technical training centre, with Saleh Al Wazan, chairman of the Ford Middle East Dealer Association.

Ford opens technical training centre in Dubai

SALEH Al Wazan, chairman of the Ford Middle East Dealer Association, and Louis R. Plummer, general marketing manager, Ford International Export Sales, opened the Ford Direct Markets Inc. technical training centre in Dubai recently.

"Customer satisfaction is of top most importance to us," said Plummer in inaugurating the facility. "We want to achieve the highest level of customer satisfaction possible and this facility is dedicated to meeting this aim."

The 2,850 square foot facility, located next to the Galadari Ford showroom in Dubai, is a custom-designed centre for technical, product, management and sales training

for staff of the nine Ford dealerships located in the GCC countries, Jordan and Egypt.

The facility represents an investment of more than \$250,000 on the part of Ford International Export Sales.

Initially, there will be two, full-time, US trained district service engineers based at the facility to co-ordinate its operations and provide technical expertise.

The first technical training class was held last week. Following inauguration of the facility, 45 parts and service delegates from Ford dealers joined with 14 Ford managers from the United States for a three day annual parts and service managers conference, held for the first time in Dubai.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.
Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Bangladesh Art Show
MAY 12-27: Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam will show 45 paintings at the Kuwait National Museum. Islam's paintings revolve around the life of Bangladesh. Landscapes are also on show. The exhibition will be open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4 to 7.30 pm. It has been organised by the Bangladesh Association.

MUSIC

Kuwait Singers
KUWAIT Singers present "Stage Struck" an evening of show songs from Broadway and the West End at Gulf English School, Salwa on Wednesday 24th May and Thursday 25th May at 8.00 pm. Price KD3 to include refreshments. For reservations please phone 5317433/5384873.

Geet and Gazals
MAY 19: A musical programme "Boholya Bhaiya Geet Gazals" is to take place at Sharq auditorium. They are also on the lookout for singers to participate in this programme. Those interested may contact: Anwar H. Abdullah — 3989111 ext. 6811; 8 am - 3 pm.

SOCIAL

May Queen
MAY 11: Kuwait Goans will hold a May Queen function at Messiah Beach Hotel with Top Ranks and Next of Kin in attendance. The cream of the evening will be provided by Alexander Rosario, the singing sensation from Goa. For details contact 2413348/4881387.

Casualty Cricket Club
MAY 18: 8 pm. Messiah Beach Hotel. Annual dinner with special guest speaker Brian Close CBE, former captain of England and Yorkshire. Courtesy of British Airways. Live music. For tickets and information call Simon Clements (53333248) or Val Tudball (5327159).

Konkani drama
MAY 18-19: Indian Arts Circle, Fumaitia, M.A.R. Productions presents Konkani drama "Noshibachho Divo Palando", directed by Prem Kumar. Gate passes available at Raja Stores. Tel. 2412970.

Kuwait Caledonians
MAY 18: Messiah Beach Hotel. The Caledonians will hold a "celebrity" (gathering) with entertainment by John Carmichael and others. Tel: 5335082; 3727690 ext. 253.

Summer Bazaar
MAY 19: 2.00 pm, St Pauls Ahmadi, grand summer bazaar at the new British Consulate in the British Embassy grounds, sale of handicrafts, paperbacks, preserves good as new, plants, bottle stall, white elephant, numerous fun side shows etc. Plus prize draw for British Airways round trip ticket Kuwait-London, Delhi, Madras or Karachi.

Arabian Nights
MAY 19th, "Arabian Nights" evening at the Jawhara Nightclub, Messiah Beach Hotel. Dress: Middle-Eastern of past or present. 20 costume prizes. Tel: 4847461, 2418017, 4846843 ext. 4515, or leave message on 2614201.

ACT play
MAY 16-18: ACT presents a play by Raymond Briggs, "When the Wind Blows" at the Mousetrap Theatre in Jahriya at 8 pm both days. For reservations call: 5620332, 4-8 pm.

Musical evening
MAY 17: (8.30 pm). The Phil Thomas Sextet and Karl and Christine Anderson with their band present an evening of British and American jazz, rock and pop music at the Holiday Inn. For reservations contact:

5629452/4834938/5387998.

Ex-May get-together

MAY 18: Roorkee University Alumni Association will have a family get-together. For details contact tele. 2551305 or 5631325.

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By Kathy Cuddihy

Remembering mothers

ON the 14th of May, some countries (the ones that know which side their bread is buttered on) pay homage to (oh! alright, they acknowledge) a vital segment of the population: mothers. Come on, admit it, where would we be without them?

Does anyone (other than mothers) ever stop to think what a great invention mothers really are? They're an amazing feat of contradictions: strong but gentle, sometimes silly but usually wise, an innate compendium of nursing and homemaking, not to mention being persons of astonishing ability when it comes to repairing damaged toys, finishing difficult puzzles, and locating lost library books.

Who else but a mother would graciously accept the fact that she'll always be the one to get the brown banana, the egg with the broken yolk, and the pen that has run out of ink? After making sure that the entire family has eaten a nutritious breakfast, she packs them a wholesome lunch (which unappreciative kids trade for utter junk, like bubble gum cards). Mothers themselves must rely on left-overs and cold coffee to see them through their busy days.

For the benefit of naive

individuals who automatically assume that women and mothers are synonymous, let me set the record straight: it ain't necessarily so. More often than not, women and mothers exist as two separate entities.

Women are those sophisticated types who charm people with their witty, cultivated conversation. Many mothers, after exerting themselves in the realms of diplomacy, time management and guidance counselling, are often too tired to socialise. Besides, who else but other mothers (and children) could understand their specialised vocabulary: "Remember to come home, dear, when the big hand is on the twelve and the little one is on the three." Do other adults really want to hear adjectives like "yucky", "yum-yum" or "radical, man?"

Women are those people who can walk out of their homes looking at least "together" if not downright chic. Mothers are seldom so lucky, for disaster is programmed to befall them with agonising regularity. Mothers are the ones wearing the smudged nail varnish, or the pretty dress with one shoulder showing distinct traces of a recent baby burp.

Needless to say, because they are, after all, only human, mothers don't always merit the appreciation they deserve. While I sometimes rate such rave reviews as, "All my friends say you're the funniest Mom they know," unfortunately not all comments are so complimentary: "You're the meanest Mom in the whole world. What could I possibly have done to deserve you?" You win some, you lose some.

Yet our apparent lack of perfection (at least in the eyes of a few ingrates), Mothers are remarkable for their perseverance. True, it's not exactly a job from which one can walk away, but only a mother would bring a bit of panache to a situation where she daily has to cope with blind eyes, deaf ears, dirty faces, and fresh mouths.

Some people may sneer at the sheer commercialism of Mother's Day. After all, it's well known that at this time of the year florists, chocolate manufacturers, and greeting card companies turn a tidy profit as a result of guilty children trying to bribe their way back into their mothers' good graces. We mothers, however, know that the exercise serves a valuable purpose: it reminds our offspring that

mothers are special people deserving of respect, admiration...adoration? Well, at least worthy of a little attention and pampering once in a while.

Since Mother's Day comes only once a year...on what seems to be absolutely the shortest day of the year...I try to capitalise on the event as much as possible. I'm slowly emerging from the years of overcooked breakfasts in bed and am hopefully progressing into a period of gourmet dinners...cooked every night for a month.

Of course, it's not only children who should be grateful for motherhood. Shouldn't husbands, too, feel indebted? In an effort to milk the maximum amount of gratitude, I snuggled up to my husband and quizzed him on his proposed plan of action.

"Darling," I cooed, "I'm sure you remember that it's Mother's Day next week. What wonderful delights do you have in mind to commemorate the occasion?"

"Dear Heart," he replied with mild astonishment in his voice, "you're not my mother, you're my wife. Why should I especially mark the occasion when we both know that every day is wife's day?"

Isn't he just a bundle of joy? Well just let him wait and see if I bother to write an article praising fatherhood!



The Marquess of Bath with part of his Margaret Thatcher collection. "It would distress her," says the 84-year-old aristocrat.

English aristocrat collects bizarre Thatcher memorabilia

The many faces of Maggie...

Flattering, honest or plain offensive like a rubber dog's bone with the prime minister's head at one end are some of the items in the Thatcher collection of the Marquess of Bath. He is in two minds about whether to show his latest collection to the British prime minister.



Another face of Thatcher with her grandson Michael

By Juliet Towhidi

AN 84-year-old aristocrat, known for his fascination with memorabilia of the famous, is in two minds about whether to show his latest collection to Margaret Thatcher.

The Marquess of Bath, whose previous obsessions include items dealing with Adolf Hitler and Winston Churchill, prides himself on collecting anything, whether it is flattering, honest or plain offensive.

His new collection — hundreds of jugs, mugs, pots and other objects — covers the 10 years of rule of Britain's first woman prime minister, who celebrated a decade in office on May 4.

The objects sit in two floor-to-ceiling cabinets in his stately home near this western English city.

"I call this cabinet the ugly one," said the Marquess, striding into one of the mansion's 96 rooms.

The cabinet contains objects like a rubber dog's bone with the prime minister's head at one end, a kitchen chopping board with a cartoon of Thatcher wielding an axe, and a roll of toilet paper bearing an imprint of her smiling face. There is also a teapot with Thatcher's nose as the spout.

Nearby is a box for a video cassette tape with "video nasty, blue movie, written down one side. The marquis opens it and out pops a contorted rubber caricature of the prime minister.

"It is rather derogatory," sighs Henry Frederick Thynne, the sixth Marquess of Bath, gazing at the display.

"I suppose people these days have less respect for their leaders than

they used to."

But he insists on collecting it all. "Otherwise I wouldn't be true to what people think of her," he says.

He boasts that his Longleat manor in Wiltshire, built in 1580, has the country's biggest collection of Thatcher memorabilia. But the owner knows that inviting the lady he admires to view the room could have its drawbacks.

He chuckles. "It doesn't distress me so much, but I should think it would distress her."

The "pretty" cabinet contains the usual collectors' items: silver spoons, and plates and mugs bearing Thatcher's portrait.

The Marquess started collecting in earnest after World War Two. The Churchill collection is his biggest. It fills three rooms and includes two lifesize statues of the man dressed in his original clothes, a three-foot-long cigar with Churchill embazoned down one side and endless rows of eggs cups, plates and sketches.

There are no toilet rolls, chopping boards or ugly teapots here. The sole hint of satire is in the larger-than-life caricatures of the wartime leader.

The Marquess passes through a room covered from floor to ceiling with stamps and says with a flourish: "This is the world's largest collection of Churchill stamps — if you like collecting stamps, which I don't."

Why, then, does he collect? "To add to the value of Longleat," he replies.

Although vague about the exact value of his collections, the Marquess knows they are worth a considerable amount.

"I suppose one day they may have to be sold for money," he says. "If I had to sell any, it would be the Hitler lot, as that's not part of England."

The Hitler collection, housed in a dark side room, includes a first edition of Mein Kampf and 60 watercolours painted by the German leader. An album shows endless photos of arms raised in salute during the Nuremberg rallies in the early 1930s.

The Marquess will not be drawn on his opinion of Hitler. "No comment," he says emphatically. "But remember, I fought against him in the war."

The elderly aristocrat strode energetically on to another collection — mementos of the Duke of Windsor, who abdicated in 1936 in order to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson.

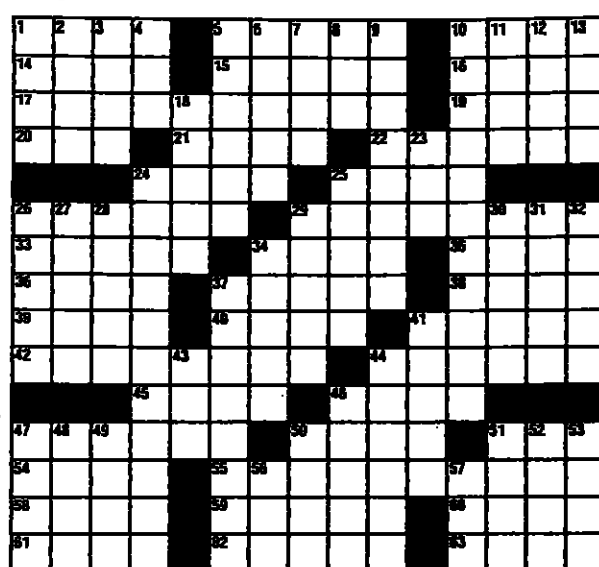
"It's the man who gave up the throne for the love of a woman. That's unique in our history," he says.

These days hippopotamuses stroll across the lawns laid out over 400 years ago by the Marquess' ancestor, Sir John Thynne. Lions roam the 10,000-acre (4,000-hectre) parkland and elephants slowly nibble away at the trees.

Longleat is the home of the world's first drive-through safari park, opened in 1964, and which now draws a quarter of a million visitors a year.

It was his keen awareness of history that made the Marquess open his doors to the public. After his father's death it was the only way to overcome crippling death duties without selling the house.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Healthy
 - 5 Felony
 - 10 Perfumed powder
 - 14 Emmy's kin
 - 15 Kept going
 - 18 Diva's delivery
 - 17 Backer, informally
 - 19 Tankard filler
 - 20 Street name
 - 21 Small bills
 - 22 See 29 Across
 - 24 Comic Bunny
 - 25 Family —
 - 26 Great
 - 28 Stevenson title, with 22 Across
 - 33 Ham it up
 - 34 Voucher
 - 35 Coal carrier
 - 36 Political cartoonist: 1840-1902
 - 37 Begrimed
 - 38 Vedic fire god
 - 39 To — (precise)
 - 40 Connecticut university
 - 41 Trapshooting
 - 42 City SW of Los Angeles
 - 44 Napped leathers
 - 45 Crawl along
 - 46 Ceilings
 - 47 "The Wild One" star
 - 50 Ticked off
 - 51 Billy — Williams
 - 54 Circle
 - 55 Highly seasoned stews
 - 58 One of the Aleutians
 - 59 Remove
 - 60 Kind of grip or hand
 - 61 Profound
 - 62 Overfeeds
 - 63 Actress Daly
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Where the heart is
 - 2 Genesis name
 - 3 Author O'Flaherty
 - 4 Evasive one
 - 5 Show fear
 - 6 Indy action
 - 7 Art shop purchases
 - 8 A Stogie
 - 9 Completeness
 - 10 Poker players' arrangement
 - 11 District
 - 12 Bank arrangement
 - 13 King or queen, for example
 - 18 Whole, in Paris
 - 23 Vestness
 - 24 Soft-soaping
 - 25 Old hat
 - 26 French legal body
 - 27 Early Neopolitan painter
 - 28 Also-ran
 - 29 Gurwale pin
 - 30 Encouraged
 - 31 Titled Indian
 - 32 Releases
 - 34 Lombardi, was one
 - 37 Ne'er, how'er, etc.
 - 41 Terrific
 - 43 Moreover
 - 44 Garb for 31 Down
 - 46 Grove
 - 47 Tapered nail
 - 48 Liburgy
 - 49 Chip in
 - 50 Disagreement
 - 51 Rowboat
 - 52 Harrow rival
 - 53 Anglo-Saxon laborer
 - 56 Noted period
 - 57 Stone

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

THE KING IS DEAD, DEAD, DEAD

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A J 4 2
 ♥ 10 7 3
 ♦ A Q 8 7 5
 ♣ 3

WEST
 ♠ 10 9 8 7 6 3
 ♥ 8 5 4 2
 ♦ 10 6
 ♣ K

EAST
 ♠ K
 ♥ K
 ♦ K J 4 2
 ♣ A J 10 8 5 4

SOUTH
 ♠ Q 5
 ♥ A Q J 9 6
 ♦ 9 3
 ♣ Q 7 6 2

The bidding:
 East 1♠ South 1♥ West 2♥ North 2♠
 Pass Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

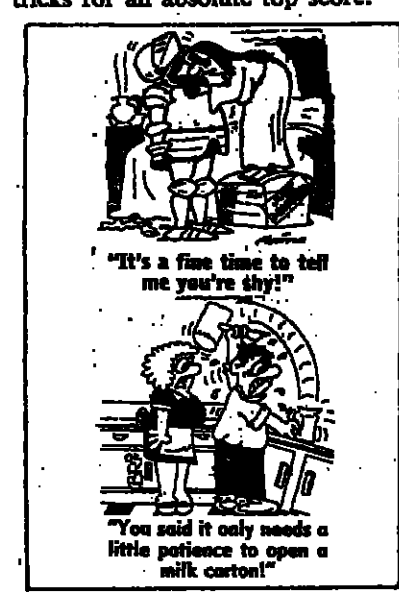
There used to be a kibitzer haunting New York bridge clubs who, because of his pontificating while kibitzing, earned the nickname of The Rabbi. The rule for which he became famous was: "If the king is singleton, play the ace!" He would have been delighted by this hand, which cropped up in a duplicate game at New York's renowned Cavendish Club.

Sitting South was club manager Tom Snow. After his vulnerable overcall, North had more than enough to contract for game. His cue-bid of two clubs simply added

an additional round to the bidding. West led the king of clubs, which held. A diamond shift would have been best, but West chose the ten of spades. On the auction it was most unlikely that West could hold two kings, so declarer shot up with the ace and was delighted to see East's king come tumbling down.

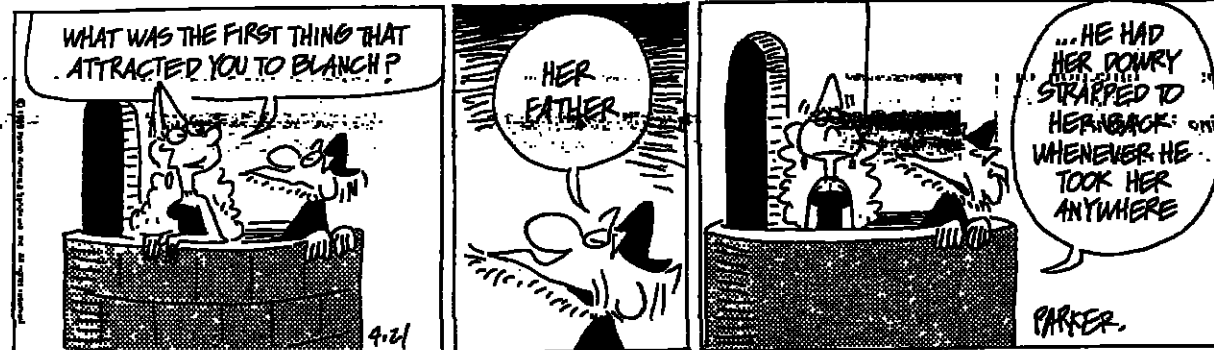
A low trump from the table fetched another king from East, and things were looking up. Declarer ruffed a club in dummy, came to hand with the queen of spades and ruffed another club. After discarding a diamond on the jack of spades, a spade ruff was the entry to the closed hand to draw the outstanding trumps in three rounds. Dummy came down to the ace-queen of diamonds, while declarer was left with a diamond and the queen of clubs. East could not withstand the pressure when the last trump was cashed.

His last three cards were the king-jack of diamonds and ace of clubs, and he could not afford to part with any. He tried valiantly by discarding the jack of diamonds, but declarer made no mistake. A diamond to the ace felled the now-singleton king, and declarer emerged with two overtricks for an absolute top score.



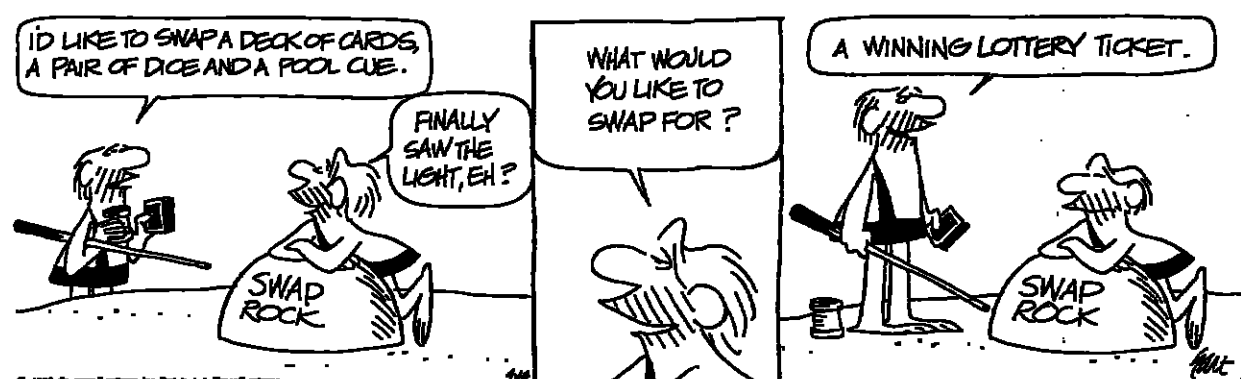
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will not find it quite so easy to make up your mind. You should beware of all kinds of exaggerations. Try to use just a little more discretion. Be reliable.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will find it hard to choose between alternatives, but choose you must. And do not make your mind up on the spur of the moment. Leave as little as you can to chance. Be resolute.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

This is going to be an eventful and tiring day for you. You will be able to do something to improve your financial situation but only by continuing to be frugal. Try to show a little more goodwill towards others. Be considerate.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

This is going to be an eventful and tiring day for you. You are only too liable to make a mistake and should be on the lookout for it. You will have to work really intensely to meet a commitment but should not fail to do so. Be careful.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be stimulated to do your best. Something you do now will have an important effect on your future. Make sure you do not let a friend down. Be observant.



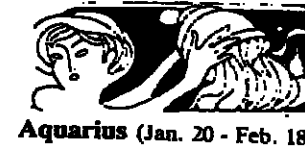
Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will feel in rather high spirits and should try to curb yourself. You should try to effect a better balance between work and leisure. Do not allow others to be a nuisance to you. Be amenable.



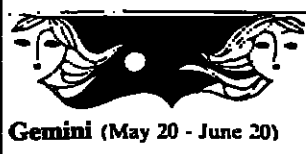
Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Something you are learning requires plenty more practice, but you are getting there. Stick to your guns, but try not to be quite so obstinate. You will need to have the courage of your convictions. Be less extravagant.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will find a better way of doing something you have to do as a matter of routine. You are liable to run out of enthusiasm and should do all you can to reinvigorate it. Make sure you do not allow your emotions to run riot. Be reasonable.



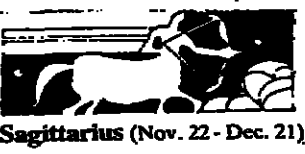
Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Everything will take just a little longer, but do not allow yourself to get flustered. Just work steadily without too many pauses. Make sure you take the best care of your health. Be sincere.



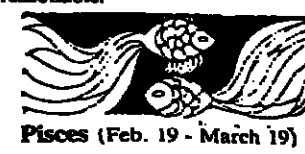
Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will be able to clear up a question that has been bothering you for some time. You will have a good opportunity but unless you act fast you are liable to miss it. Do not do things on the spur of the moment. Be tolerant.



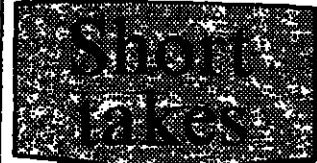
Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You would be wrong to expect others to agree with everything you are doing. The wind is in your sails but make sure you are not heading in the wrong direction. Do not make any promises that would be hard or impossible to keep. Be resilient.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to do something a little more practical. Your lucky numbers are 36 and 37. You are rather too liable to believe that what you would wish to be actually is. Your charm will help you to obtain better results than force would have done. Be cordial.



Spillane entry
HOLLYWOOD. (UPI)—Producer Jay Bernstein announced he has paid Mickey Spillane \$1 million for movie-TV rights to *The Killing Man*, the author's new action novel.

"This is Mickey's first new novel in 20 years," Bernstein said, "and the most exciting one he has written."

According to Bernstein, Spillane is the fifth most translated writer in recent literary history, behind Lenin, Tolstoy, Gorky and Verne, in that order.

Caine break
Michael Caine will star in *A Shock To The System*, described by Frank Perry, president of Corsair Pictures, as a stylish thriller.

Jan Angleson will direct *Shock*, from a screenplay by mystery writer Andrew Klavan, on locations in New York and Connecticut.

Caine will play an ambitious advertising executive whose mind turns to murder when his passion for a job promotion he had been expecting for years.

Unsavory sex
Out Of The Dark, to be released next month, stars Cameron Dye, Karen Black and Bud Cort in an erotic murder mystery based on the lurid world of telephonic sex service.

Set in seamy areas of Los Angeles, *Out Of The Dark* features sex, violence, telephones and death.

The film, directed by Michael Schroeder with a screenplay by J. Greg de Felice and Zane W. Legitt, includes cameo appearances by Tab Hunter and Elaine Kazan.

She-Devil starts
Principal photography began this month on *She-Devil*, starring Oscar-winner Meryl Streep and hefty TV comic Roseanne Barr.

The dark comedy involves a downtrodden housewife (Barr) whose husband leaves her for a glamorous romance novelist (Streep).

She-Devil is being directed by Susan Seidelman, best known for her direction of *Desperately Seeking Susan* and *Making Mr. Darcy*.

Lewis honoured
Comedian Jerry Lewis, national chairman of the Muscular Dystrophy Association since 1950, will be honoured at the third annual *A Night Under The Stars* gala on May 12.

The fund-raising event at the Beverly Hilton Hotel will feature entertainment by Mel Torme, Tony Orlando, Norm Crosby with Ed McMahon as master of ceremonies.

Lewis will be given the Dennis Day memorial award named for the singer who lost his battle against amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a neuromuscular disease for which the Muscular Dystrophy Association is seeking a cure.

Remick stars
Lee Remick will star in *Dark Holiday*, the drama based on Gene Lepera's true story of her frightening imprisonment in a Turkish prison after being accused of smuggling antiquities.

Also starring in the drama are Norma Aleandro and Roy Thinnes for producer-director Lou Antonio.

In 1983 Lepera vacationed in Turkey where she bought three cheap figurines from a street vendor and was later detained in customs when she declared the objects. She was imprisoned and put on trial for smuggling national artifacts.

Mini-series drama
I Know My First Name Is Steven is the title for a two-part NBC-TV mini-series relating the true story of Steven Stayner, kidnapped at age seven and reunited with his family seven years later.

The drama deals principally with the difficulties the boy encounters in adjusting to a life he had long forgotten after escaping from his abductor.

Pierce Brosnan faces the future with hope

Back to work with a vengeance

By Ivor Davis

ON-SCREEN he is the epitome of the cool, suave and unflappable hero. But for the real Pierce Brosnan, TV's elegant Remington Steele, the last two years have been an emotional roller-coaster ride he can't wait to put firmly behind him.

On the career front, following on the heels of such disappointing movies as *Nomads* and *The Deceivers*, there was the misery of having to say "no thanks" to becoming the new James Bond. When he couldn't get time off from his TV series the Bond producers hired Timothy Dalton instead. Shortly afterward, "Steele" was cancelled.

But all such matters suddenly faded into insignificance when just a few days before Christmas 1987 he received some terrible news.

Brosnan's beautiful Australian-born wife Cassandra (Cassie) Harris, who was a Bond girl in *For Your Eyes Only*, was diagnosed as having cancer.

"Suddenly it put a lot of things into perspective," notes Brosnan, who, despite his smooth, polished and caustic screen facade, is a shy and sensitive man.

"It was the most difficult period of my entire life. When you learn that you may be losing your loved one," he says softly, talking for the first time publicly about his very private agony, "it is very very difficult to handle."

The diagnosis — cancer of the ovaries — came shortly after Brosnan and his then 35-year-old wife had returned from a trip of India.

Suddenly, high-paying movie roles meant nothing.

To further aggravate their troubles, while Cassie was undergoing debilitating chemotherapy treatments, Pierce learned that his Irish father Tom Brosnan, with whom he had only recently been reunited after nearly a lifetime estrangement, was critically ill. Before the actor could get treatment for him his father died.

Wearing a black sweater, black cowboy boots and faded blue jeans, Brosnan nibbled a quick Chinese lunch from a plastic plate as he looked back over the bittersweet events of the past year or so. Happily, he says, Cassie's



He may be the cool, suave and unflappable hero on screen, but the real Pierce Brosnan, TV's elegant Remington Steele and the man who nearly became 007 has been on an emotional roller-coaster he is trying to put behind him.

prognosis is good. So Brosnan has jumped back to work with a vengeance after having put his career on hold to be with his wife during her treatments.

His first new role is as the flamboyant, globe-trotting Phileas Fogg, a 19th-century aristocrat created by Jules Verne in the classic *Around the World in 80 Days*. Fogg bets the members of his very posh London club that he can circle the globe in 80 days. As he sets off on his voyage he is surrounded by an all-star cast that includes former Monty Python star Eric Idle, Julia Nickson and Oscar- and Emmy-winner Peter Ustinov. Guest stars include Henry Gibson, John Hillerman, Jack Klugman, Christopher Lee, Patrick Macnee, Roddy McDowall, Darren McGavin, John Mills, Robert Morley, Lee Remick, Jill St John, Robert Wagner and Simon Ward.

The six-hour NBC miniseries was shot in

England, Macao, Hong Kong, Thailand and Yugoslavia, and is a very different version from Mike Todd's much belabored 1956 film, which starred David Niven as Fogg.

Brosnan's last miniseries outing was James Clavell's *Noble House*, which the actor says was so tedious and overwritten that he could never watch it. Brosnan has no such qualms about *World*, which he says was "a pleasurable experience."

"Fogg appeals to me because he's such a gentle fellow who finds himself at the vortex of a comic whirlwind. It's amusing and intriguing to watch him sort things out and discover what he wants out of life. The timeless lesson he learns is the value of love, friendship, duty and courage."

Busy again, in March Brosnan began filming *The Heist*, a Home Box Office movie in which he plays an ex-convict who launches an operation to sting the man who framed him.

Later this year he will finally get to play the kind of role he was made for — the old Cary Grant part in a remake of the Grant/Myrna Loy/Shirley Temple 1947 comedy, *The Bachelor and the Bobbysoxer*.

"I had tried for some time to get the rights to some of Cary's old films, but they are tied up in his estate," he explains. "This one isn't."

With evident difficulty Brosnan returns to the topic of his wife's illness. The adversity has made his family and marriage stronger, he says.

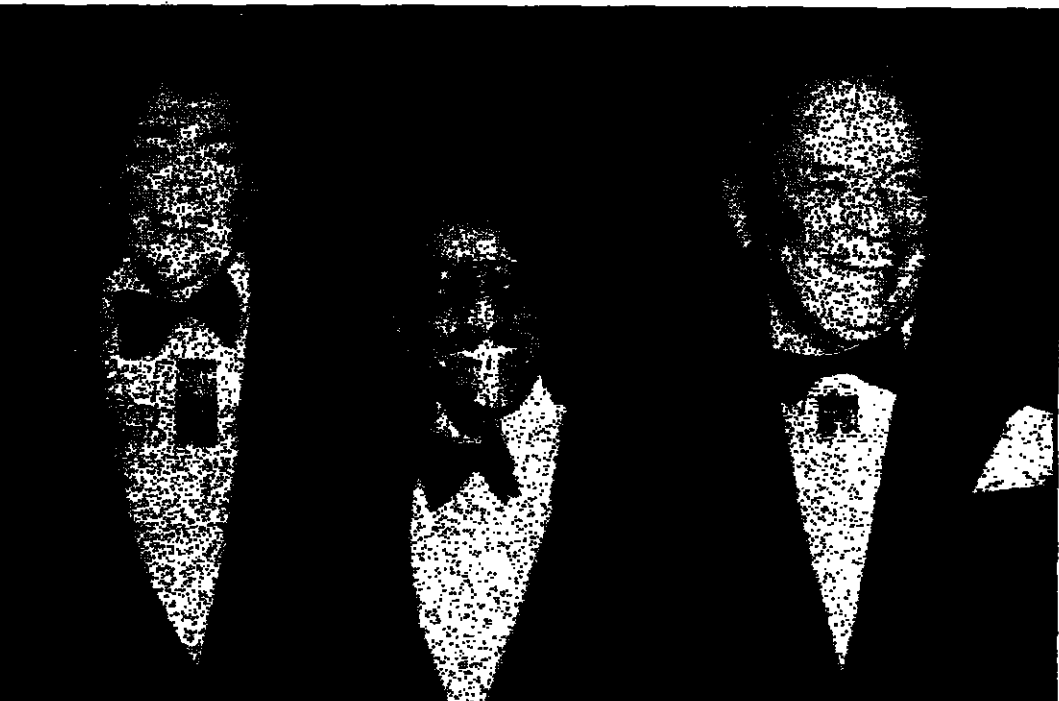
"I can't think of anyone else I want to be with besides Cass. We're just a little wiser and a little less scared of life. We've tried to simplify our lives and cherish our moments together."

Simplifying meant selling a huge house in the Hollywood Hills and buying what he calls a "postage-size" beach cottage in Malibu, where they live with four-year-old son Sean. Their other children, Charlotte, 15, and Christopher, 13, are at boarding school in England.

"You just realise you have to take each day as it comes. Enjoy and embrace it and try to cut out the negative things in life," says Brosnan. "Cassie has been such pure joy to watch. She's a lower of strength to me. It's an inspiration to see the way she has handled herself during this terrible time. She does it with such grace and dignity. It blows me away."



Brosnan as the flamboyant Phileas Fogg in *Around The World In 80 Days*.



Sammy Davis Jr (centre) flanked by Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra, former members of the Rat Pack.

Sammy Davis Jr reflects on his career

Surviving the odds

By Eva Ahlberg

STOCKHOLM. (Reuter): Sixty years after his first performance, entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. says he would never have become a star, were it not for his tormented past as a black artist trying to make it in a white world.

"I always wanted to be big. I wanted people to look at me and see a man — and then later, somewhere down the road, realise that he was black," Davis said at a news conference here to launch his autobiography *Why Me*.

The book was launched in Sweden, on the Stockholm stop of a world tour in which Davis starred with his long-time friend Frank Sinatra and Liza Minnelli.

Swedish publishers got exclusive rights to publish the book first, in conjunction with Davis' show here. The autobiography, Davis' third book, covers his whole life.

Throughout the book, Davis, 63, talks about the obsession with stardom which elevated him to one of the most sought-after performers in the world but also led to heavy drinking, drug abuse and loss of family and friends.

"The hysterical search for stardom cost me everything I loved. My wife, three children, a few friends I would have liked to have in my old age, and a couple of fortunes..." he says in the book.

But despite his difficult past, during which he has been criticised for converting to Judaism, attacked for marrying a white woman — Swedish actress Mai Britt — and lost one eye in a car accident, he has

survived. Considering the odds, that is not bad, he says.

"I never thought I would become so famous. I never went to school and I ain't big enough to play basketball. Frankly, I never knew anything else but showbiz," he said, sitting next to his third wife, Altovise, a black dancer.

Davis started his career at the age of three, entertaining in music hall with his parents. By the time he was four, he had performed in more than 50 cities.

He recalls being very protected during his early years and says it was only in the Army that he came to realise what his skin colour meant to others.

It was a brutal awakening which made him deeply committed to the civil rights movement and gained him the friendship of Martin Luther King and Jesse Jackson.

"How long could I have lived without knowing that the world is made up of racists, inbetweens and Uncle Tom's?"

"I couldn't imagine then that for the rest of my life I would be fighting with people who hated me without even knowing me," he writes.

In another passage, describing performances with his father in Las Vegas, he writes: "Twice a night, for twenty minutes each time my skin was not coloured. But as soon as we got off stage, we were black again."

Three decades on from his heyday as US entertainment and society trendsetter, he said he had no regrets and planned to continue to perform.

"I think I sing better now than I ever had. And the best is yet to come," he said.

Bisset's brief encounters

By David Lewa

JACKIE BISSET is alone, again, naturally. Her latest love affair, a seven-year pas de deux with Russian ballet star Alexander Godunov, is over.

What is also over for the English girl Hollywood took to its heart is the crying. These days, Miss Bisset does not regard loneliness as too much of a hardship.

"I can always pull myself together and get on with the business of making a living," she explains. "Besides, when a relationship ends, I have probably cried for a long time already. Once the decision is made, I just concentrate on making myself busy."

The total immersion in work — there are two new films currently in the making — is nothing new for Jackie, who at 44 is still one of Hollywood's most glamorous landmarks.

Before *Godunov* was sent leaping to the door of her elegant house in one of the more prestigious canyons of Los Angeles, Jackie had evicted actor Michael Sarrazin and property dealer Victor Drai. She married none of them and now says poignantly: "I usually only think of marriage when I am depressed. I am distrustful of the fidelity level of men."

"The film *Brief Encounter* had a marked effect on me. I thought it was incredibly romantic because it was about impossible love."

"Can you stand being on your own?" I asked her. She answered immediately: "Without a man? Does that mean on your own? When a relationship is excitable, you still can't go full face at it all the time."

The freneticism of all that intensity and passion can be very wearing. You have to accept that the body needs to have a rest at times, too. Then there is a slump in a relationship and the passion can return — if you don't panic.

"Some people need to live very closely together. I have found that if familiarity is not to breed contempt, when you are living with someone, you must keep the mystery. Losing that is a mistake."

"So it helps then not to be living together in too small a place. The assumption that you can do everything together is a mistake."

Miss Bisset is much in demand at the moment. She has two new films coming out. In one, the cleverly named *Scenes From The Class Struggle In Beverly Hills* (which is more mercurial than Marx), she plays what she calls a "merry widow" who, when her cheating husband dies, decides to have fun herself and find her own identity again. Its appeal is enormous and the Rank Organisation has invested in it for showing in England.

The second film is French, *L'Armoureuse*, in which she plays a writer of her own age, who falls in love with a younger man and gets dumped by him.

I talked to her about *Clare*, the former soap opera queen in *Scenes From The Class Struggle In Beverly Hills*, and Jackie Bisset said: "There is nothing more debilitating to a woman's pride than to have a man sleeping around. It doesn't leave your self-esteem in very good shape. I don't spend very much time with women like Clare here in Beverly Hills, but human pain is exactly the same everywhere."

"I have friends who are always falling in love with married men. I don't like that. It doesn't happen to me — or at least only once. I want things to be clear. I want love to be possible and liveable and explorable and I don't see the need for the furtiveness of the thing. And I don't seek to have more pain than I have already."



Jackie Bisset: at 44 she is still one of Hollywood's most glamorous landmarks

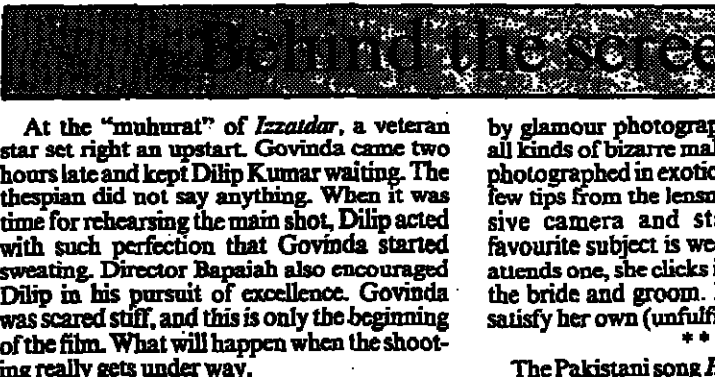
I questioned that. There is no pain on your face at all, I said, nor lines. "That is because I pull myself together," she said.

"But of course I am vulnerable and I can go into a heap." Her father, a doctor who died six years ago, and her mother, a lawyer, were divorced after 30 years of married life. "I thought they were happier separate — so on that level I was happier for them. On another level there was a great deal of pain, for them and for me. They should have been separate long before the 30 years."

"I am not saying I am against marriage at all. You have to know what is right for them all. You have to know what is right for them and you don't know that when you are very young."

"But," I said to her, "you haven't tried marriage at all." "I have," she said. "In my mind I see all my relationships as sort of marriages. They have been exclusive and substantial relationships. I don't see what the difference would have been in a formal ceremony."

"Except those little words 'Till death do us part'." I said. She answered: "They are beautiful words, but how can you keep the relationship alive? Actors don't have normal lives anyway. If the man wants you in an old traditional marriage, then being a working woman is very hard. It depends on who you are."



Govinda (left) kept Dilip Kumar waiting. Rekha has turned photographer with a vengeance. She is not satisfied with sessions

by glamour photographers, when she wears all kinds of bizarre make-up, dress etc. and is photographed in exotic poses. She has taken a few tips from the lensmen, bought an expensive camera and started clicking. Her favourite subject is weddings. Whenever she attends one, she clicks it in all the details with the bride and groom. Is it a release valve to satisfy her own (unfulfilled) desire?

The Pakistani song *Hawa hawa* has become a hit in Bombay, and one who has benefited most from it is a young up-coming dancer called Shivani. She appears in stage shows and gyrates to its tune, with a lot of encores from the audience. In one show, even Govinda joined her. The result is that she has got roles in eight films and even a solo dance in *Kanta*. This is a cabaret in tribal style shot near the Vashi jungles.

Arun Govil's wife Lekha was very cut up with Deepika, for playing Sita, to her husband who played Rama, in the TV serial. So she planned to get her own back on her. Lekha started a stage ballet called *Ramayana* where she herself plays Sita and Arun of course has to do Rama. She has also roped in the original Ravana, namely Arvind Trivedi, who became



Rekha has turned photographer with a vengeance.

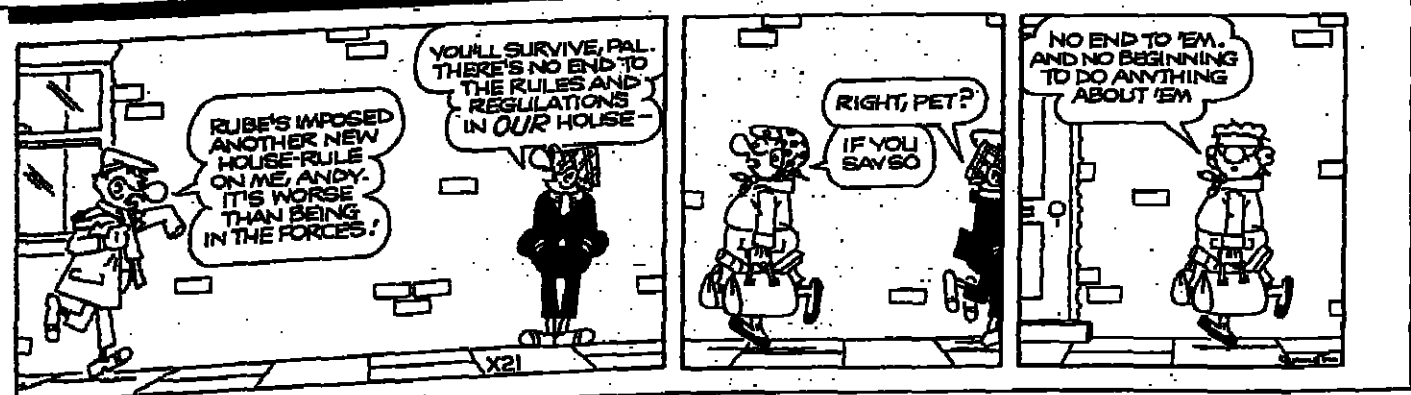
extremely popular in the TV role. But Deepika is kept miles away, naturally.

Amiabi is agreeing to do anything for popularity. He did a video film "Re-life" or "Greatest Show" by dance director Kamal, where old hit songs dances are re-enacted. Amit with Kimi as his partner danced to the tune of *Bholi Surat Dil Ke Khoie*, which became a craze after it was performed, by Bhagwan and Geeta Bali in *Albela*.

Hema Malini said she spends six hours every other day with the beautician. Such secrets should not be leaked out, dear old lady.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



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Italian probe clears Nebiolo

ROME, May 9. (Reuters): A public prosecutor yesterday recommended shelving criminal investigations against international athletics chief Primo Nebiolo over alleged financial irregularities at the Italian National Federation.

Judicial officials said deputy public prosecutor Antonio Vinci had concluded there were no grounds to charge Nebiolo, who ran the Italian federation FIDAL for 20 years, with for-

gery and pursuing private interests in office. But they said Vinci had recommended trial for former FIDAL general secretary Luciano Barra on both counts and for former FIDAL vice-president Giuseppe Mastropasqua on the second charge.

Vinci's recommendations must be approved by a senior magistrate but it is extremely rare in the Italian legal system for a proposal to drop charges to be

rejected. Nebiolo, president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), and the two others have denied any wrongdoing.

Vinci's four-month inquiry related to an alleged improper contract awarded to an Italian sports promotion agency by FIDAL. Nebiolo resigned as FIDAL president in January after a series of highly-publicised scandals at the federation.

Reds blank Mets

Expos thrash Astros

NEW YORK, May 9. (AP): Jose Rijo allowed two hits in seven innings and Todd Benzinger hit a pair of sacrifice flies as the Cincinnati Reds stole a season-high five bases and beat New York 3-0 last night, the second straight shutout suffered by the Mets.

Rijo, 3-0, struck out nine, the most by a Reds pitcher this season, and lowered his ERA to 1.43. Norm Charlton retired two batters in the eighth between a walk and a single. John Franco came on and recorded his 11th save in as many chances. He allowed one hit in the ninth.

The last time the Mets suffered consecutive shutouts was on May 3-5, 1985. They were blanked on five hits Sunday by Houston's Jim Deshaies and have gone 23 innings without scoring. They have managed only 17 hits in their last four games.

Besides their five steals, the Reds cashed in on six walks from loser Bob Ojeda, who gave up just three hits in seven innings. Kal Daniels led off the Reds, first with a walk and stole second. Chris Sabo sacrificed and Daniels beat Ojeda's throw to third. Sabo stole second and the runners scored on Barry Larkin's groundout and the first of Todd Benzinger's two sacrifice flies. In the fifth, Sabo walked, stole second, went to third on Larkin's single and scored on Benzinger's second sacrifice fly.

In the only other National League game yesterday, Montreal defeated Houston 4-1. Expos 4, Astros 1.

Kevin Gross pitched a five-hitter for his first complete game of the season and Tim Lincecum hit a two-run homer as Montreal snapped a four-game losing streak. Loser Bob Knepper gave up four runs and five hits in 3-2-3 innings.

Montreal took a 2-0 lead in the first inning on Raines' first home run of the season following Otis Nixon's one-out single. In the fourth, Wallace Johnson drew a two-out walk and took third on a double by Spike Owen. After a walk to gross loaded the bases, Johnson scored on Knepper's wild pitch and Rex Hudler's infield hit brought Owen home.

Houston scored in the bottom of the fourth on Bill Doran's third home run of the season. Angels 3, Tigers 2.

The California Angels scored nine runs in the fourth inning en route to a 9-2 victory last night over the Detroit Tigers.

The Angels have a five-game winning streak and are 20-11 on the season. Last year, they didn't win their 20th game until June 5.

In other American League games last night, it was Texas 13, New York 2; Minnesota 4, Boston 2; Oakland 6, Baltimore 1; and Toronto 10, Seattle 1.

Detroit's Doyle Alexander didn't allow a hit through the first three innings, but Wally Joyner started the fourth with a double and scored on a one-out single by Devon White.

Chili Davis singled and Lance Parrish walked to load the bases. Dante Bichette grounded to third, but Al Pedrique's throw home hit White in the back for an error, allowing White and Davis to score.

Jack Howell was intentionally walked to load the bases and Dick Schofield walked to force Parris home. Brian Downing's triple cleared the bases and made it 7-0. Ramon Pena relieved and the Angels scored their final two runs on Joyner's triple and Johnny Ray's single.

Rangers 13, Yankees 2. Jeff Stone, a late replacement for the missing Rick Leach, drove in four runs and Kevin Brown beat New York for the second time in a week.

Stone keyed a seven-run fifth inning with a three-run triple and added an RBI double in a four-run sixth. Stone was not in the original lineup but was inserted as the designated hitter when Leach did not show up at Yankee stadium.

Twins 4, Red Sox

Kirby Puckett ended a 0-for-15 slump with a run-scoring double and Shane Rawley scattered eight hits in 7-2-3 innings. Rawley ended a personal four-game losing streak with his first victory since his Minnesota debut April 6.

The Australian, who also is ranked in the top 10 by both the International Boxing Federation and World Boxing Association, hopes to fight for a world title within 12 months.

"I regard every fight as a learning experience, but Giovanni is just another fighter who I must beat on my way to a title shot," Harding said today.

The duo meet in a 10-round non-title fight at Newcastle Basketball Stadium on Friday night.

Giovannini, 28, is ranked ninth in the light-heavyweight division by the IBF and 10th by the WBA. He also holds the WBC International title, which is contested non-American fighters ranked outside the top 10 by that organisation.

"This fight is very important to my world ranking and I'm keen to win," Giovanni said through an interpreter.

Giovannini, who boasts a 27-3 record with two draws, hopes to earn a fight with WBA light-heavyweight champion Virgil Hill of the United States if he can outsmart big-hitting Harding.

Harding's victims include Americans Don Lee and Art Jimmerson, Brazilian Carlos Antunes and Argentine Jorge Salgado, whom Giovanni has fought three times for a win, draw and loss.

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Teo Fabi of Italy watches the performance of other drivers from the pit well during practice laps for the Indo 500. Fabi will also be attempting to qualify for the race in his March Porsche. (Reuters wirephoto).

Harding set to take on Giovannini

NEW CASTLE, Australia, May 9. (AP): Unbeaten Australian boxer Jeff Harding sees Nestor Giovanni of Argentina as just another obstacle on his way to a world title. Giovanni regards Harding the same way.

Harding, 24, is the Orient and Pacific light-heavyweight champion and is ranked second in the super-middleweight division by the World Boxing Council. His record is 13-0 (11 knockouts).

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Futch still training and talking at 77

LONDON, May 9. (AP): He's trained Larry Holmes, Michael Spinks, Joe Frazier and 12 other champions. At 77, the Futch touch is ready to strike again.

Eddie Futch, one of world boxing's master strategists, will be in Mike McCallum's corner tomorrow night when the 32-year-old Jamaican takes on Britain's Herol Graham for the vacant World Boxing Association middleweight title.

"This is going to be a strategic fight, a technical fight," Futch said. "It's one for the purists. At the end of it, I'm confident of having my 16th world championship."

In a sport increasingly marked by confusion and hype, Futch talks boxing with the clarity and straightforwardness of an experienced veteran.

Winning fights, he says, is all about style. Being the world's hardest puncher may not always be enough. Nor may having the fastest hands and feet, but nothing else.

"Just because fighter 'A' can beat fighter 'B' and fighter 'B' can beat fighter 'C', that doesn't mean fighter 'A' automatically will beat fighter 'C', Futch said. "It's all a matter of style."

Futch acknowledged that Graham, with only one defeat in 42 pro-fights and known for his excellent defensive skills, could be a difficult target to hit.

But, he said, McCallum, a former world light-middleweight champion could box as well as the Briton and certainly punched harder.

"Graham is shifty and fast

moving, but he's going to be forced to fight when he doesn't want to," Futch said. "I have seen faults and we intend to exploit them. We also intend to nullify his strengths."

The fight marks the second time in three months that Futch will be plotting the downfall of a British boxer. In February, he was in Marlon Starling's corner when the American took Lloyd Honeyghan's World Boxing Council welterweight title.

That, too, was a matter of styles. "I knew Honeyghan would come out swinging and I just told Marlon to block the punches and frustrate him," Futch said.

The plan worked perfectly as Honeyghan ran out of stamina and was pummeled into a ninth-round stoppage in Las Vegas.

"I used to back off going into the corners," he said. "Now I don't. That's the basic difference."

Al Unser Sr had the second-fastest car of the day, reaching 224.831 mph (361.821 kph) in his Penske-Chevy. The speed 70 mph (111.5 kph) faster than his first Indy qualifying speed 24 years ago and 54 mph (87 kph) ahead of his only Indy pole average, which came in 1970. The third driver on Roger Penske's team, Danny Sullivan, reached a top speed of 223.325 mph (359.397 kph) with the Penske-Chevy combination.

The Penske cars of Unser Sr. Mears and Sullivan are favourites for the pole position when qualifying begins Saturday. The trio sat along the front row of last year's race.

"We worked closely together all day," Mears said. "When you have three guys working together in different directions, you can explore a lot of different things and use your time better."

Michael Andretti reached 224.382 mph (361.098 kph) in his Lola-Chevy while Emerson Fittipaldi drove as fast as 224.047 mph (360.539 kph) in his Penske-Chevy. Al Unser Sr managed 223.103 mph (360.040 kph) in his Lola-Chevy while Mario Andretti reached 222.606 mph (358.340 kph) in his Lola-Chevy.

Chevrolet Engines dominated the circuit last year and have continued that control this season, placing first through fifth at the Indy-car opener in Phoenix and first through third at Long Beach last month.

Buddy Lazier and Scott Harrington completed their rookie tests yesterday as 49 cars tested, a record for the third day of practice.

Baseball great's souvenir to be auctioned

ALLENTOWN, Pennsylvania, May 9. (AP): Baseball star Lou Gehrig's last award, a 1939 pin commemorating his position as honorary captain of an all-star team, will be auctioned next week for an estimated \$15,000 to \$25,000.

The legendary first baseman, suffering from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, was unable to complete the 1939 season, but served as team captain for the New York Yankees and honorary captain of the American League All-Star team.

Lelands Art and Collectables plans to put the pin on the block on May 17.

Lelands bought the pin in January from a nephew of Gehrig's, who had had it for the past 30 years, according to Leland's official Beverly Hebelka. She said the nephew, whom she would not name, approached Lelands owner Joshua Evans at a baseball card show about selling it, but was hesitant.

NHL investigates defection

MONTREAL, May 9. (AP): National Hockey League president John Ziegler continued his fact-finding mission yesterday to clarify the status of Alexander Mogilny, the Soviet player who defected and signed with the Buffalo Sabres over the weekend.

Ziegler, in Chicago to attend the fourth game of the Stanley Cup playoffs between the Chicago Blackhawks and the Calgary Flames, has asked Buffalo general manager Gerry Meehan to provide him with a complete report, Gary Meagher, an NHL information director, said in Montreal.

The report is expected to detail the events that led the former player with the Soviet Union's Central Red Army to approach the Sabres with a request to join the NHL team. Buffalo has selected him on the fifth round of the amateur draft last June.

Meagher said Ziegler spent much of the day last Friday speaking by telephone with both government and sports officials in the Soviet Union, seeking information about Mogilny, 20, who arrived from Stockholm last week. He had remained in the Swedish city following the World Hockey Championship, won last

week by the Soviets. Although Mogilny, regarded by many as the top junior prospect in the world, signed a contract with the Sabres, it is subject to NHL approval.

Ziegler has to consider the effect NHL approval of Mogilny's signing would have on the improving relations between the NHL and Soviet sports organisations and on the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

At a news conference over the weekend, Meehan said that Mogilny has not requested political asylum in the United States.

The Canadian swimmer last week failed in an attempt to complete a 25-kilometre (15.3-mile) swim across Cook Strait between the north and south islands of New Zealand.

Canadian plans marathon swim

SYDNEY, Australia, May 9. (AP): Canadian butterfly swimmer Vicki Keith will have two major obstacles to overcome when she attempts a 22-kilometre (13.6-mile) journey across Sydney harbour on Saturday — fatigue and sharks.

Keith, 28, has been advised to use a protective net to ward off the sharks.

The Canadian swimmer last week failed in an attempt to complete a 25-kilometre (15.3-mile) swim across Cook Strait between the north and south islands of New Zealand.

Spanish rider wins 15th leg

VALDEZCARAY, Spain, May 9. (AP): Spain's Pedro Delgado won the 15th leg of the 44th Tour of Spain cycling race yesterday and Colombian Martin Farfan became new overall leader.

Delgado, winner of the 1988 Tour of France and the 1985 Vuelta, covered the 24.8 kilometres (15.3 mile)-leg in 53 minutes and 22 seconds, with an average speed of 26.983 kph.

Ivan Ivanov of the Soviet Union was second, crossing the finish line 26 seconds behind the

Mears breaks lap record during third Indy practice

INDIANAPOLIS, May 9. (UPI): Rick Mears drove the fastest lap ever recorded at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, reaching 225.733 mph (363.272 kph) yesterday in his Chevrolet-powered Penske chassis during the quickest practice session in Indianapolis 500 history.

The 11 fastest laps ever clocked at the speedway were achieved during yesterday's third practice session for the May 28 race. Mears, the defending champion and a three-time Indy winner, circled the 2 1/2-mile oval in 39.87 seconds and recorded five of the day's 10 top laps.

"It was just about as good as you can get," Mears said. "It was a fairly comfortable run, but we're getting close to the limit. I feel there's some more left, but we're going to have to make some detailed changes. There's more to be found, but it's very difficult to come by."

Mears set the previous practice mark of 222.827 mph (358.595 kph) last year. His qualifying lap last year of 220.453 mph (354.775 kph) is the official speedway record, which can only be set during qualifying. BNut this year's practice speeds indicate that mark will be shattered when qualifying begins Saturday.

Mears was clocked by his pit crew at more than 226 mph (364 kph) for the top lap, with a straightaway speed above 231 mph (372 kph).

Mears said he can reach 225 mph (362 kph) in qualifying and that 230 mph (370 kph) is not out of the question.

"If things keep going, I would say we might reach it next year," Mears said. "It's in the realm of possibility. I don't think we'll reach it this year. It would be very hard."

Mears credited this year's faster speeds on the combination of improved car, engine and tyres plus ideal weather conditions and a resurfaced track. Those factors have allowed faster cornering speeds.

"I used to back off going into the corners," he said. "Now I don't. That's the basic difference."

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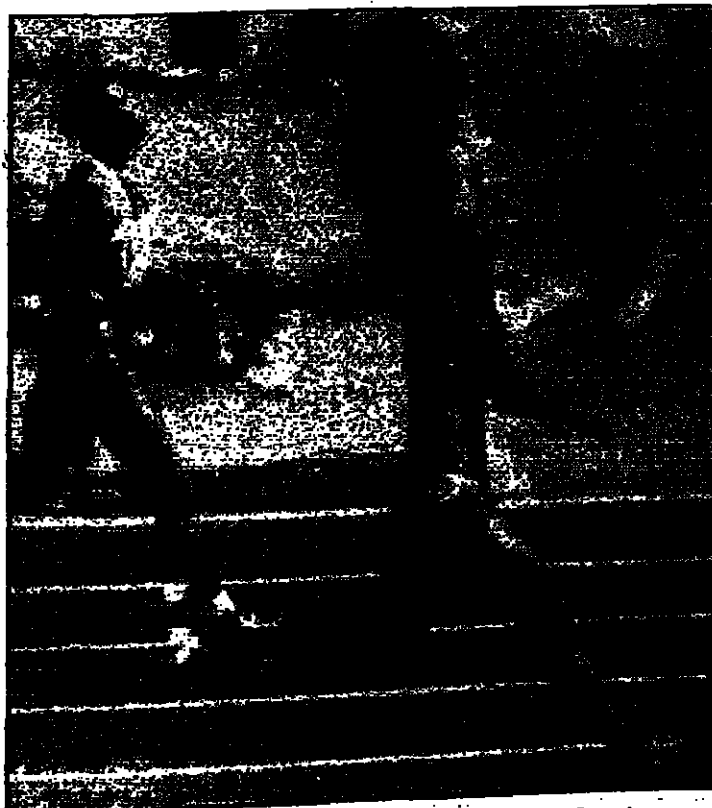
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Johnson (right) after setting the world record at Seoul. (Reuters wirephoto)

TORONTO, May 9. (AP): Richard Pound, vice-president of the International Olympic Committee, said yesterday there may have been cover-ups of failed drug tests at the 1983 World Track and Field Championships in Helsinki.

Pound, testifying under oath at a government inquiry into drug use in sport, said the lack of even a single positive test in Helsinki indicated something "very wrong" with testing procedures.

"There could either have been tests which were not acted upon by the International Amateur Athletic Federation or a direction not to test for certain compounds or substances," said Pound, a Montreal lawyer who was an Olympic swimmer in 1960.

Pound also said that he and IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch blame those associated with Ben Johnson for the sprinter's downfall.

Johnson was stripped of a gold medal and world record in the 100 metres after testing positive for anabolic steroids at the Seoul Olympics last September.

The inquiry, created in the wake of the ensuing scandal, has heard evidence from various witnesses that Johnson was a longtime steroid user who understood he was taking banned substances.

"We had the guilty body in Ben," Pound said. "He tested positive and, for that, he had to pay the price. But it's my view — and it's a view shared, I know, by president Samaranch — that perhaps those who are the most implicated are the people around him."

Pound said the IAAF risked losing credibility after no drug users were detected at the Helsinki meet.

"All over the world people shook their heads and

said, 'that's not credible. You're in serious danger of becoming a laughing stock with this kind of result,'" Pound said.

At the next World Championship in Rome in 1987, Pound said the IAAF planned to have IOC experts in charge of testing. But two weeks before the championships, the IAAF changed its mind and removed the IOC experts. In Rome, there was one positive test.

Pound also said while international sports federations might condone drug use among athletes, the IOC will not tolerate such conduct.

He said the IOC has pushed the international federations to implement anti-drug policies.

"We have cajoled and bullied and threatened and forced a lot of these international federations into adopting doping-control programmes," Pound said. "There are many who do it simply to get us off their backs. But they don't fully implement them and they don't really believe in them. They do it simply because they think they'd look bad if they didn't have a doping policy."

At the Olympics, Pound and others concluded that Johnson's only defense was to claim an unidentified stranger in the drug-control station slipped a substance into the sprinter's drink.

SPORTS BRIEFS

QPR triumph

LONDON, May 9, (AP): Andy Gray scored his second goal of the game in the final minute to give Queens Park Rangers a come-from-behind 3-2 victory over Manchester United in English League soccer last night. Gray tied the score 2-2 in the 60th minute and gave QPR the victory with a hard shot past United goalkeeper Jim Leighton just before the final whistle.

Real coach

MADRID, May 9, (Reuters): Briton John Toshack took on one of European soccer's most daunting jobs today, signing to coach Real Madrid in a two-year contract reported to be worth more than one million dollars.

FA Cup

LONDON, May 9, (Reuters): A replay of the FA Cup final, if one is needed, will not take place for nearly three weeks because of the crowded soccer programme, the English Football Association said today. Traditionally a replay would have been staged on the Thursday following the May 20 final at Wembley between Liverpool and Everton but it has now been set for June 8.

Cup qualifier

ISTANBUL, May 9, (Reuters): The Soviet Union, who made a faltering start to their qualifying campaign with a 1-1 draw against Iceland, put their improved recent form to the test against Turkey in a World Cup soccer match here tomorrow.

England bowler

LONDON, May 9, (Reuters): England fast bowler Graham Dilley will have a knee operation this week and looks likely to miss England's one-day cricket internationals against Australia at the end of the month.

Junior rankings

LONDON, May 9, (AP): Argentine Fernando Meligeni and Federico Haumuller held on to their No. 1 positions in the boys and girls junior rankings through the first 45 tournaments of the season, according to the International Tennis Federation.

Swiss coach

BERN, Switzerland, May 9, (AP): Uli Stielke, the former West German soccer international was named coach of the Swiss national team in a surprise effort to help revive Switzerland's chances of gaining next year's World Cup finals in Italy.

Italian Open

ROME, May 9, (Reuters): Results on the second day of the Italian Open women's tennis championships today (prefix number denotes seedings): 6-Raffaella Reggi (Italy) beat Sandra Wasserman (Belgium) 6-4, 6-4; Jo-Anne Faull (Australia) beat Catherine Tanvier (France) 6-2, 6-2; Sabrina Goleis (Yugoslavia) beat 13-Ana Grosman (US) 2-6, 6-2, 6-4; Janine Thompson (Australia) beat Julie Halard (France) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4; 14-Isabelle Demongeot (France) beat Nicoletta Lacour (Italy) 6-2, 5-7, 6-1.

UEFA officials

AREZZO, Italy, May 9, (AP): An association of relatives of Italians killed in the 1985 Heysel stadium soccer riot said yesterday they will appeal a Belgian court's recent acquittal of two officials of UEFA, Europe's soccer governing body.

Heintze replaced

COPENHAGEN, May 9, (Reuters): Anderlecht's Henrik Andersen has replaced suspended defender Jan Heintze for Denmark's World Cup soccer qualifier against Greece here on May 17.

Mancini gets taste of own medicine in West German Open

HAMBURG, West Germany, May 9, (Reuters): Argentine Alberto Mancini got a taste of his own medicine last night when he was beaten by lowly-ranked Spaniard Sergio Bruguera in the first round of the West German Open men's Grand Prix tennis tournament.

The 19-year-old number 11 seed, who upset Boris Becker and Mats Wilander on his way to the Monte Carlo Open title two weeks ago, was beaten 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 by Bruguera, ranked 91st in the world.

Mancini, ranked 25th, was one of two seeds to come unstuck on the first day of the \$692,500 clay courts event. Australia's number 12 seed Darren Cahill was also knocked out 6-3, 6-3 by 20-year-old Spanish qualifier Tomas Carbonell.

Mancini, after his Monte Carlo victory and a solid performance at last week's Munich tournament where he lost to Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg in the quarterfinals, was tipped as a threat on clay at the prestigious Italian and French Open championships later this month.

But the Argentine said afterwards the

tennis world should not expect his two big wins to suddenly make him this season's sensation on clay.

"Some people maybe expect me to win every match on clay now," he said. "I was good in Monte Carlo but that doesn't mean I can beat everyone."

After taking the first set 7-5 the Argentine lost concentration and his accuracy

from the baseline deserted him completely as he lost the second set 6-2.

In the third set Bruguera, 18, playing in only his fourth Grand Prix event, attacked him at the net, taming the fierce ground strokes which helped Mancini outplay Becker in the Monte Carlo final. "I won because I gave him no chance to attack me," said Bruguera.

Lendl crushes Yzaga

World No. 1 wins Tournament of Champions



Lendl, clad in warmup pants, returns the ball to Yzaga. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK, May 9, (UPI): Ivan Lendl, already a day late for an appointment in Europe, required only 70 minutes to crush Jaime Yzaga 6-2, 6-1 yesterday in the final of the rain-delayed Eagle Tournament of Champions.

Fortified by the top prize of \$82,450, Lendl was to leave later in the day for Hamburg, West Germany, where he is playing this week.

Lendl, wearing warmup trousers the entire match on another cold, windy day at Forest Hills, broke service in the first and fifth games of each set, never allowing Yzaga a chance to fight back.

"I don't enjoy playing in sweats, it's not comfortable, but it was necessary," Lendl said. "There's not much you can do about it."

Although he said last week that winning this tournament wasn't as important to him as getting his clay-court game together for the French Open starting May 29, Lendl was near invincible at Forest Hills. In five matches he yielded merely 18 games, never more than three in any set.

"The main thing for me is I was moving well and I felt strong, which means I wasn't tiring and no matter what happened on court I felt comfortable," said Lendl, who has a match record this year of 28-2 with four tournament titles.

Although he contends it isn't his favourite surface, Lendl has lost only three matches on clay courts in the last three years.

Yzaga, ranked No. 56 in the world, had taken a set from Lendl in two previous losses, but was ineffective yesterday. The 21-year-old Peruvian gained three break points against Lendl's serve in the second game of the second set, but was unable to convert.

After Yzaga held in the third game, Lendl captured the next four games with the loss of six points, ending it on his second match point when Yzaga sent a backhand into the net. Lendl tallied four aces.

"He's the No. 1 player in the world and he's there every point," Yzaga said. "He won't give you any points, and I was a little impatient."

Asked how he thought Lendl would fare in the French, Yzaga said: "It's going to be very, very tough to beat him over five sets. You have to be very consistent and very strong, both in your mind and physically."

Yzaga, the third unseeded player ever to reach the final of this championship, surprised even himself with his success in making it to the title match. He earned \$41,255.

The final had to be carried over until Monday after rain washed out two days of competition last week.

W. German Open

HAMBURG, West Germany, May 9, (Reuters): Results at the \$692,500 West German Open men's Grand Prix tennis tournament today (prefix number denotes seedings):

First round: Jens Woehmann (West Germany) beat Christiana Bergstrom (Sweden) 7-5, 4-6, 6-1; Carl-Uwe Steeb (West Germany) beat Olivier Delatour (France) 6-3, 6-2; Javier Sanchez (Spain) beat Richi Osterhurn (West Germany) 7-6 (10-8), 6-0; Jan Gunnarsson (Sweden) beat 13-Andrei Chesnokov (Soviet Union) 6-4, 6-3; Diego Nargiso (Italy) beat Martin Srebnik (Czechoslovakia) 4-6, 6-1, 6-1; 16-Marcos Filippini (Uruguay) beat Sergio Casal (Spain) 6-4, 6-2; Goran Ivanisevic (Yugoslavia) beat Kent Carlsson (Sweden) 7-5, 4-6, 6-1; 7-Guillermo Perez-Roldan (Argentina) beat Udo Riglewski (West Germany) 6-1, 6-2; Sergio Bruguera (Spain) beat Marian Pajda (Czechoslovakia) 3-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-3; 10-Jonas Svensson (Sweden) beat Franco Davin (Argentina) 6-2, 6-4.

Pete Rose

CINCINNATI, May 9, (AP): Pete Rose won't talk about Major League baseball's investigation of his gambling, but he has finally gotten around to admitting he's retired as a player. The Cincinnati Reds' manager hasn't played since striking out Aug. 17, 1986, in a pinch-hit at bat against San Diego's Goose Gosage. Rose admitted the next year that he wouldn't play anymore, but that's as close as he's come to an official retirement announcement.

Argentine star in new row

Maradona threatens to leave Napoli

NAPLES, Italy, May 9, (Reuters): Argentine star Diego Maradona is threatening to leave Napoli after a new row with the club, saying he has lost the support of chairman Corrado Ferlaino.

"If even the chairman is against me then I can't stay (with the club). Next year I will leave. I am a bit tired ... every Sunday there is a new mystery. I will tell Ferlaino I am leaving," the Argentine World Cup captain said in a television interview last night.

Maradona signed a new contract with Napoli last year which should keep him with the southern club until 1993.

"I could tell Naples that my time is finished. I can fight those outside (the club) but I cannot fight those inside as well. If Ferlaino wants he can send me away. It just means I will find a new side ... I don't feel protected by the club at this time."

Maradona was angered by press reports suggesting club officials believed he did not play against Bologna last Sunday because of differences with trainer Ottavio Bianchi.

In the interview, he said that he had been unable to play in the match, in which Napoli were lucky to salvage a 1-1 draw, because of a nagging back problem which has put him out of six League matches this season.

Napoli have already denied that Ferlaino made any statement attacking Maradona, although the Argentine star said he had been upset to read remarks attributed to the club chairman.

Napoli kept a private jet waiting for Maradona in Naples all Saturday and then cancelled both it and a hotel room in Bologna.

Asked in the television interview if he had really had a back injury on Saturday, Maradona said: "I was in pain ... if somebody wants to put another interpretation on that it's no problem. I have always had back problems, this year more than ever."

Maradona, who said he was homesick and missed his mother, wife and child, has been involved in several highly public rows with trainer Bianchi since joining Napoli in 1984, but until now his relations with Ferlaino have appeared to be good.

Napoli play the return leg of the UEFA Cup final against VfB Stuttgart on May 17 after winning the first leg in Naples 2-1. Maradona scored a controversial penalty in that match.



Diego Maradona

Chances of Italian sweep hang on Vialli

Sampdoria meet Barcelona in Cup Winners' Cup final

BERNE, May 9, (Reuters): Italy's chances of a clean sweep of all three European club soccer trophies hang heavily on Sampdoria striker Gianluca Vialli's battle to get fit in time to face Barcelona in Wednesday's Cup Winners' Cup final.

Vialli, a sharpshooter who has proved a match-winner time and again for Sampdoria and Italy, has not played since aggravating a thigh muscle injury two weeks ago in a friendly international with Hungary.

He is determined to play but, if his shoulders seem broad enough for the task, there must still be a serious question mark about whether his injury will allow him to be anything like his sparkling best.

"To get fully fit, I would need a month but I cannot miss this final," he said. "I shall certainly play even though I don't really know how. The leg is still giving me pain."

Italy, with Napoli in the UEFA Cup final and AC Milan in the European Cup final, have the chance to become the first country to capture all three tro-



Vialli (left): determined to play

phies in a season but without an effective Vialli, Sampdoria may be chasing a lost cause.

In terms of European pedigree and current form, they barely belong on the same pitch as Barcelona whose Dutch coach Johan Cruyff seems appropriately confident.

"We are going to attack," he said. "If we play as we can, we

don't have to worry about Sampdoria or Vialli because he won't be any danger if the ball can't reach him."

Cruyff and Barcelona have done it all before, the coach winning the Cup Winners' Cup with Ajax Amsterdam two years ago and the Spanish club taking the trophy in 1979 and 1982.

While it is Barcelona's 10th

European final altogether, it is Sampdoria's first. In only their third season in Europe, they have never gone beyond the second round before.

Form is against the Italians too. On Saturday they slumped to their fourth defeat in a row with a 1-0 loss in Lecce and they have now gone seven matches in a row without winning.

The number seven figures in a more positive way for Barcelona who are unbeaten in seven games and who scored a thumping 7-1 win over Oviedo in their last match nine days ago.

Striker Julio Salinas hit a hat-trick in that match to take his League tally to 18 and his partnership up front with Gary Linaker of England will pose plenty of problems for the Sampdoria defence.

Barcelona will be without another striker, Jose Maria Bakero, who is out for the rest of the season with an ankle injury. Paraguayan international Romero is ineligible and defender Ricardo Serna is suspended.

But Sampdoria have even greater problems. Experienced

central defender Pietro Vierchow is suspended, as is another member of the back four Amedeo Carboni. Captain Luca Pellegrini and defender Marco Lanna are struggling to get over recent knocks and Moreno Mannini is fit after a long injury but playing in his first full game since February.

Nevertheless, the Italians, whose veteran midfielder Victor Munoz will be playing against his old club, do not consider themselves down and out.

Probable teams:

Barcelona — Andoni Zubizarreta, Aloisio Pires, Jose Ramon Alexanco, Urbano Ortega, Milla, Eusebio Sacristan, Guillermo Amor, Roberto Fernandez, Julio Salinas, Gary Linaker, Altor Beguiristain. Sampdoria — Gianluca Pagliuca, Moreno Mannini, Stefano Pellegrini, Fausto Pari, Marco Lanna, Luca Pellegrini, Victor Munoz, Toniolo Cerezo, Gianluca Vialli, Giuseppe Dosena, Roberto Mancini.

The match will be telecast live by KTV at 9.00 pm.



Arias: outclassed eight-seed Oresar

Vilas tames Goldie

Arias eliminates Oresar

CHARLESTON, S.C., May 9, (Reuters): Former US Open champion Guillermo Vilas of Argentina outclassed fourth seed Dan Goldie of the United States 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 yesterday in the opening round of the US clay court tennis championships.

Vilas, ranked 187 in the world, broke serve to lead his 38th-ranked opponent 5-3 in the final set and won with a forehand passing shot at the Wild Dunes Racquet Club.

"I was playing well and he was steady, but towards the end I came up with the big shots. My return of serve was especially good today," Vilas said.

Unseeded Jimmy Arias of the United States opened his bid to reach his second successive clay court final with a 6-1, 6-3 victory over eighth-seeded Bruno Oresar of Yugoslavia.

"This has always been a great tournament for me," said Arias, ranked 113th in the world but who reached as high as number five in 1984.

"But this is really the first year in some time that I feel I can hit the ball well again. Nobody's choking against me. I'm going to have to build up the reputation again."

Arias, 24, lost to Andre Agassi in last year's clay courts final. He won the tournament in 1983 and has reached the final three times.

Sixth seed Jay Berger of the United States advanced by ousting Claudio Panatta of Italy by 6-1, 6-3 at the Wild Dunes Racquet Club.

Berger reached the quarterfinals of last year's event but was forced to retire due to injury.

In other matches, Alex Antonitsch of Austria outlasted wild-card entry Chuck Adams of the United States 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (8-6) while Lawson Duncan of the United States edged Tobias Svantesson of Sweden 7-5, 7-5.

Jones fractures cheekbone

HOWE, England, May 9, (AP):

Australian cricketer Dean Jones, a key middle-order batsman for the tourists, suffered a fractured cheekbone today when he was hit in the face by a delivery from Sussex fast-bowler Tony Pigott, team officials said.

It was unclear whether Jones would be able to return in time to play for Australia in its first international Test against England at Old Trafford on May 25.

"It is impossible to say how long Dean will be out until he's seen the specialist," said Australian coach Bob Simpson. "We hope that can be done today."

Jones failed to connect with an attempted hook on Pigott's

short-pitched delivery and was hit in the right cheek. He slumped to the ground and was helped off the field by teammates.

"The ball stopped a bit and he was through his hook shot too early," Simpson said.

Jones was not wearing a helmet, but Simpson said he still will not insist on his players using helmets because "it has to be a personal choice."

The Australian batsman, who scored 170 during his only other tour match last week, had made only five when he was struck by the delivery.

Australia's problems were not confined to Jones' injury.



Faisal Al Dakhil quits soccer

FAISAL AL DAKHIL (right) shakes hands with Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, the chairman of the Kuwait Football Association, after playing his last game of soccer at the Qadisiya stadium on Monday evening. In this match Faisal played for his club Qadisiya against Ahli of Egypt. The latter won the match 3-2, but Faisal got a chance to exhibit his skills by scoring the best goal of his career. A crowd of over 20,000 was present on the occasion to watch Kuwait's best player in action for the last time. Faisal joined

Qadisiya in the 1972-73 season at the age of 16. He soon became a member of the first team and after a few years was selected to the national squad. Faisal played, both at domestic and international levels. He also helped Kuwait reach the World Cup finals in 1982 and was instrumental in this country taking the Gulf title a number of times. The sendoff for Faisal was held on an unprecedented scale and included fireworks and songs by renowned artists.

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